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THE MARTLET

UNIVERSITY OF VICTORIA STUDENT NEWSPAPER THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 1989 VOLUME 28, NUMBER 19

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A letters preview

Let the majority teach

Editors:

I have encountered two profs in as many semesters that have been instrumental in creating a situation wherein I learn in spite of them, not because of them. It does not strike me as coincidental that they both utilize English as a second (third?) language. Perhaps they are both linguistically and intellectually adept at their native tongue; on the other hand, it might be equally likely that they were chosen ahead of better qualified "majority group" members purely for political reasons. With regard to the first possibility, who the hell cares how proficient they may be within the parameters of their own language/culture if English is the implicitly agreed upon language of instruction at UVic? With reference to the second scenario, I do not appreciate my learning environment being subordinated to the filling of minority quotas. It is extremely difficult to achieve maximal learning when being instructed by someone who cannot properly express himself. I intend no offense to these professors personally. But I would suggest that our selection committee re-priorize their personnel objectives so that "instructional competence" tops the list, especially in light of presently stratospheric tuition fees. A good start might be hiring only those that could pass English 099. Even in our culturally plural society, this must be considered reasonable. The ideal of multicultural representation should not be stressed to the exclusion of the students' opportunity to learn.

Someone who cares about learning
(and cares about grades, which explains why I have to remain anonymous)

Pringle responds

Editors:

To Gordon P. Lewis, thanks for the letter. Sorry, you didn't get elected last year (by 14 votes). As shown by your letter, the BOD was a poorer body when your participation was denied by the lack of vision of the voters. You political insight and unique command of the English language would have made you a valuable member of the BOD. The BOD needed a director who didn't think like the average student. To Ben Baker, the university would only laugh at us if asked to take back the general Manager's salary.

George S. Pringle

Continued on page 4

FIGURE OUT

WHAT IT'S

ALL ABOUT

CANADIAN TWINS. Only two of these Canadians are identical twins. Due to a mix-up at the hospital, they were separated at birth. See how quickly you can reunite them.

MOLSON CANADIAN. WHAT BEER'S ALL ABOUT.

Barry K. Mullen, a gay man on campus, says people limit their scope by not associating with gay people.

Bisexuality:
A discussion

It's strange to wonder whether the next person you will fall in love with will be a woman or a man . . .

Bisexuality is rarely acknowledged in any forum, leaving bisexuals themselves, and others, confused as to what it means to be 'bi'. The term itself does not recognize the facts that bisexuality concerns a lifestyle as well as a sexuality; and that it includes everything between straight and gay and every combination of the two.

Human sexuality is very complex. Our sexual natures cannot be easily defined. There is a large gradient between heterosexuality and homosexuality that we believe a large number of people fit into. If these people call themselves bisexual, they will most definitely have widely varying personal understandings of their own sexuality and lifestyle. It is very difficult for one bisexual to speak for all, making it difficult to explain ourselves to others if we so choose.

However, we do share a few universal similarities. Obviously we are all attracted to some degree to members of both sexes. As a result, we feel pressure to choose between the two, to label ourselves, and to identify with the gay *or* straight world. There is little or no bisexual community or language. So we end up constantly defining ourselves by other people's terms and trying to fit into other people's worlds. it doesn't work.

In general heterosexual opinion, we're abnormal and almost as bad as 'those queers'. To many lesbians and gays, we're all treacherous liars who are really straights with kinky fantasies.

In many ways, it hurts more when we are rejected by the gay community (or told that our sexuality does not exist). Everyone who is openly gay has had, in some way or another, to accept socially unacceptable sexuality; why can't they accept ours?!

But, on the other hand, some bisexuals enter the gay community to indulge in its many pleasures and then run home to the heterosexual safe world whenever the going gets uncomfortable — and that is just as unfair.

We have to understand fully that we are oppressed and discriminated against because of the homosexual aspects of our natures. We suffer from homophobia too. So, we have a responsibility to support the struggle for gay and lesbian liberation. This means acknowledging our true sexualities whenever possible, recognizing that we are all fighting for a common goal or sexual liberation, and building a solidarity between lesbian, gay and bisexual people.

Finally, there is a real need to strengthen the bisexual identity and build a community. It would help a lot of people if they knew that bi's are not necessarily oversexed spoiled brats who want their cake and eat it too. The alienation we experience is very real. It will not disappear until we are accepted as a distinct group sharing characteristics of both the hets and the gays and until our choices, our lifestyle and our issues are accepted.

— Written by the bisexual members of the Lesbian and Gay Caucus.

The Martlet *is a member of Canadian University Press. At every CUP conference there is a lesbian and gay resource room and caucus. At the last conference in Halifax there was a lot of discussion in the caucus about bisexuality; as a result, we printed this in the conference newsletter.* □

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Gay men:
How we relate to the world

by Alisa Gordaneer

Barry is a UVic student. Bill isn't a student, and John works in a retail store. They all look like the kind of people they are: men in their early twenties, who have good days and bad days, like anyone else.

If you met one of them, you wouldn't find anything different about his appearance or his voice, his clothes or his problems. Simple reason: he isn't any different.

As Barry says, "I am a homosexual, but I am also a person who cuts myself shaving, I am also late for the bus. I also get fired from jobs — I also get promotions."

"Most people who are gay, you don't even know they are," says John.

However, some people don't understand that these men loving other men is not a reason, or an excuse, to hate them.

Stereotypes have been built up around gay men by the media, by misunderstanding, and by people's general fear of homosexuals that has been brewing for thousands of years.

"It's ignorance, really," says John, "People just don't understand."

Gay men are frequently labelled with stereotypes that are often inaccurate and unfair.

"A lot of people think that gay men hit on all men — which is just garbage!" says Bill, "I don't like people stereotyping any type of person, but to be gay, and be stereotyped as a "faggot", as a "screaming queen", is insulting. Not everyone prances about.

People think a homosexual man is "feminine, a pervert, a sleaze . . . I've never felt the urge to wear makeup, or high heels," says John.

Barry agrees. "The type of person that dresses up as a woman — that basically mocks a woman . . . it's insulting both to the person who does that, and to women."

Although Bill says there are "not many people who act the stereotypes," the stereotypes still exist. Perhaps this is because of heterosexuals' misunderstanding of homosexuality.

"A lot of my friends were very homophobic . . . When they found out I was gay, they lost their stereotypical image (of gay people). They could relate to gay people, without having any fear," says Bill.

Even when people don't seem to have a problem in dealing with an individual who happens to be gay, "people have a hard time dealing with a gay relationship . . . (they're) starting to admit it's there — but when they see it themselves, they get scared . . . Fear of heterosexuals' fear makes it almost impossible to come out of the closet by yourself," says Bill.

The closet: a dark never-never land inhabited by gay men and lesbians who find the outside world a too-hostile, stereotype-populated place to reveal their sexual preferences. The homophobia present in the world is terrifying to confront. It keeps people like John in "a lonely sort of existence. My family doesn't know, and about half of my friends."

Because of the negative stereotypes that have existed in the past, it is often difficult to "come out."

Barry "came out" in res and says, "You don't have to tell your family, you don't have to tell everyone."

Bill agrees — when you do come out "it gives you more confidence." Confidence in your own self is necessary when you find yourself in the position of having a straight person at your own party remark, "Did you know that guy over there's GAY? . . . I'd watch myself around him," which is something that has happened to Bill.

The stereotypes still exist, and gay people still stay in the closet.

How to break away from stereotypical labels?

"I suppose it's like Harvey Milk (former gay rights activist) said, if everyone came out of the closet right now, everyone . . . would most likely come into contact with one or two people that were gay . . . and if they looked at that, and saw that those people they had perhaps known for years were gay, they'd come to realize that there was nothing different about a gay person — it would stop homophobia dead in its tracks. Unfortunately, that's never likely to happen," says John.

To ignore, fear, or simply dislike people because of a small facet of their personalities is unfair. Barry says, "We're not denying heterosexuality — we just don't believe it's within us . . . People ask me, 'is it tough to be gay?', and I say, 'no, it's not.' It's the other people who have the problem — the ones who can't accept us. To limit their scope by saying we're wrong, and not associating with us — they're learning a lot less about life." □

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EDITORIAL

A dedication

This issue is dedicated to the one in ten people who are lesbians or gay men. You know them. They are: the person who sits next you in class, the person who teaches your class, the person who drives the bus, the person who works in the SUB, the person who checks out your books in the library, the person who might be your aunt or uncle, mother or father, sister or brother, cousin, best friend, or yourself.

We are here to represent a small part of a large community in a positive light.

Read with an open mind, when you're not worried about what other people who might see you reading it will think.

The only thing different about us is what we do in bed. Why have a whole issue for people who do different things in bed? Sounds pretty absurd doesn't it?

The point is in this liberal-minded society what one-tenth of the population does in bed is enough to ostracize them. □

Editorial topics are decided upon at editorial meetings attended by editors and staff.

Opinion:

Hiding myself

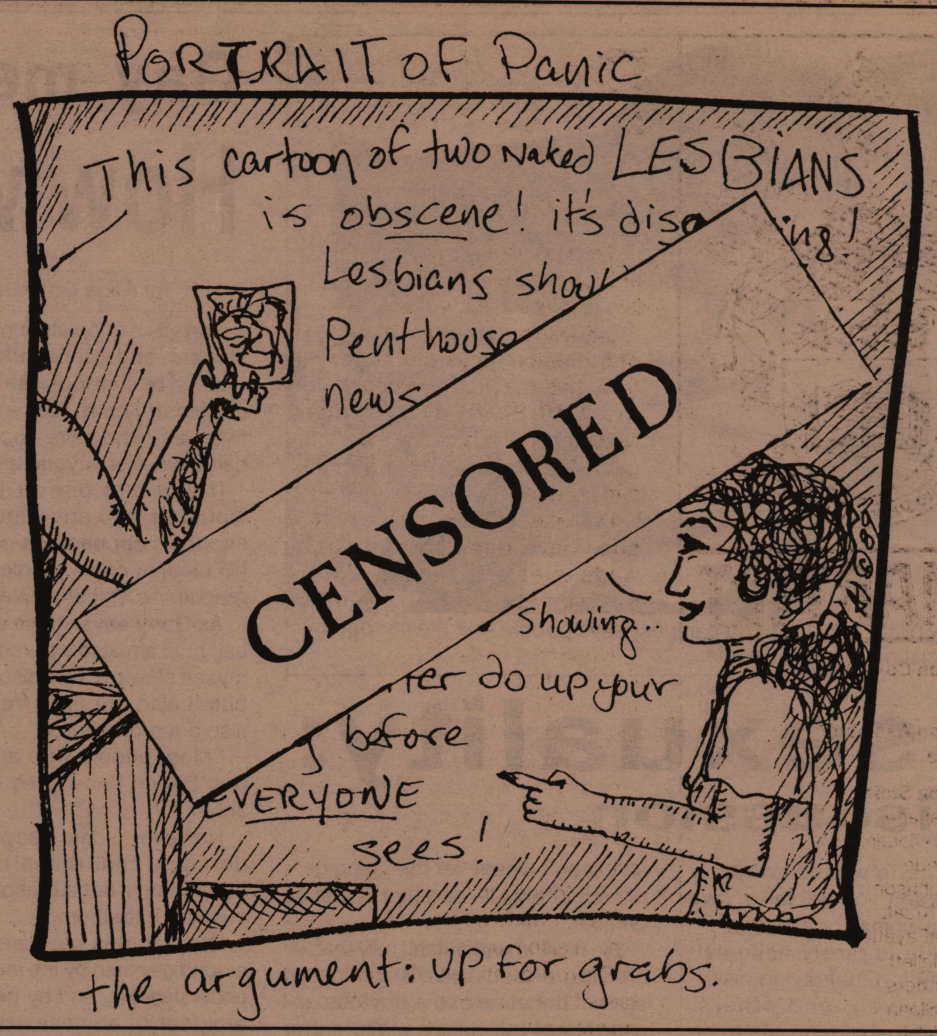
I am a gay man. That statement, were it known to most of my friends and acquaintances would shock them, and perhaps even horrify them. I have been a practicing homosexual for five years, and in the case of those years, have encountered no end of homophobia, closet complexes and generally have been forced to keep my sexual identity a secret. Why?

Although admittedly a heterosexual does not run about proclaiming his or her sexual identity from the mountain tops, the heterosexual has no need to hide. Often times a straight man will brag endlessly about his sexual exploits.

What is the difference between myself and a heterosexual man? Only the way I make love, yet I must hide myself away and live a lie for the greater part of my life. What is the cause of homophobic attitudes? Fear of the unknown, christian propaganda and a plethora of ignorance. The few straight friends of mine who are aware of my homosexuality are as accepting of me as they would be of any other of their friends because they judge me for the content of my character, not by my sexual practices. The only reason most others do not is ignorance. Gay people are like anyone else, they contain, as individuals, all characteristics, both good and bad.

I only hope that I may live to see a day where the ignorance of the majority of the heterosexual population subsides, and people look around them and discover the fact that gays are no different than anyone else. Given the way things are currently progressing I do not see this as a time which will be coming in the near future. Until then, I will sign myself

— Anonymous



The *Martlet* has an open letter policy and will undertake to print every letter received from members of the university community. Letters must be typewritten (you can use *Martlet* machines), double spaced and include your name, student number and a phone number for verification. Due to the high volume of letters received there is a 200 word limit. Editors reserve the right to edit for length and libelous content. Deadline is Monday noon. Letters will be priorized in the order received.

It's your problem, buddy

Editors:

"Funnies don't make me 'Gay'." So what is your point? A little bit homophobic? A little bit uptight about your own sexuality? I suppose you would rather see funnies aimed at ridiculing minorities, maybe you would feel a bit superior? Let me get right to the point. What you are advocating is censorship. Isn't the point of education to broaden the mind, not narrow it?

If you're complaining that the funnies aren't funny, that's a valid point, they sometimes aren't, but if you're saying that they aren't funny because of your own paranoia and narrow-mindedness, that's your problem, buddy.

Sina Queyras

Stop taking liberties, Dan

Editors:

Dan Shrier's spurilous letter accusing the *Emily* staff of female chauvinism by making a reference to matriarchy really speaks to this man's almost inexcusable ignorance of the history of the women's movement and the complex, interconnected issues, practices and values that it represents.

Perhaps Mr. Schrier would like to join the staff of the *Campus Crapitalist* where his capacity to look up words in the dictionary might be more appreciated. Of course, most grade three teachers would consider this ability a basic requirement for higher learning.

And Danny boy, while you're busy looking up anti-female, anti-building code, anti-french, anti-minimum wage, anti-human, vegetable, animal and mineral, try looking up patriarchy. The word falls somewhere between pathological and patrolcar.

And don't take the liberty of claiming most men spout contempt for feminists when you are merely expressing your own immature and hostile views.

Claire Heffernan

"Portrait of Portrait of Panic"

Editors:

The image, in cartoons or elsewhere, of women defining themselves can be intimidating because most of us have simply not been exposed to a non-male defined image of women. Does this make such a viewpoint bad or wrong?

We at the *Emily* hear many students (both women and men) express an appreciation for the insight into a dynamic and creative subculture provided by the 'Portrait of Panic' cartoons. Other people are disturbed and threatened to see through the eyes of lesbians and/or feminists because the world is truly viewed differently.

Feminist humour, be it lesbian or straight, takes on the often unpopular task of shedding light on how sex-role stereotyping stifles us all and creates unequal access to power, freedom, and respect.

In feminist humour, some people object to what they perceive as a hostile, man-hating evaluation. It is ironic that those who strive to gain women's emancipation are constantly defending themselves against such a claim. In fact, when we educate ourselves on the status of women, we see that feminism would not be necessary if misogyny did not continue to exist.

The popularity of the porno industry indicates that three out of four men in North America subscribe to it at least occasionally. Surely accusations of hate literature should be saved for material that perpetuates the enslavement of women, and not for a social critique which attempts to explore ways for women to break free.

Katherine Anne Sudol
& Elizabeth Loughran
Co-editors for *The Emily*

'Portrait' degrading

Editors:

I object strongly to the interence made in your editorial, "Call a Spade a Spade." Apparently you never bothered to really read the letter I submitted to the *Martlet*. My emphasis was not particularly on the lack of humour in the cartoons, but rather the blatant sexism and degradation, both of men and women. To say I am threatened by the existence of gay people is ludicrous. It just so happens I have a friend who is gay and the revelation of his sexual preference had no effect on our friendship. The offense of these cartoons is not in the fact that it is about lesbians. If I were a lesbian, I would be offended by the cartoons. To come right out and say the real reason this comic bothers me, it is OFFENSIVE! It is degrading to all human begins, including lesbians. It is sexist! Shall I go on, or will you continue to climb up onto your pedestal of hypocrisy and insist on being blinded by stereotypes of chauvinist, lesbian-hating males, and refuse to see the facts? The facts are, you are only defending these cartoons because they are about lesbians. If they were about heterosexuals and expressed the same kind of degrading sentiment, you would condemn them as sexist. Perhaps you should come right out and say why you support this comic.

Sincerely,
D. Schrier

Editors' note:
Are we talking about the same comic strip? We invite Mr. Schrier (or anyone else) to come to the Martlet *office and show what he (or they) find offensive.*

Thanks for 'Portrait'

Editors:

I laugh very hard; my lesbian friends too, laugh uproariously (response to D. Schrier and S. Switzer's letters, Feb. 2 issue). Frankly, I find the other comics unfunny, I can't relate to them, but I don't deny the right to laugh to those who can relate to the experiences they portray. Lesbians understand the Portrait of Panic series — it makes light of sometimes traumatic situations in a lesbian's life experience. Heterosexuals are often threatened by lesbians, threatened because it questions heterosexuals' 'natural' sexuality. Of course they choose not to laugh at these comics, and they would like to deny lesbians the right to laugh as well. Comics never appeal to everyone. The fact that these two men have felt "offended" by these comics simply indicates their insecurity and homophobia. The fact that one man describes the comic as two women "discovering themselves" also proves his ignorance of lesbian sexuality and his inability to acknowledge anything not including intercourse as 'sex'. Why should you deny a class of individuals the right to laugh? I applaud the *Martlet* for publishing these comics so that the lesbian community at the university can finally look forward to the funnies section for an accurate and amusing depiction of their lives.

Sincerely,
A. Mused

The hypocrisy of the *Martlet!*

Editors:

I am writing this letter in response to the lesbian cartoon and cheerleader controversies.

Am I alone in detecting a note of hypocrisy in the *Martlet's* treatment of these issues? You question cheerleading on the grounds that it is "sexist". Supposedly, cheerlead-

Continued on page 5

THE MARTLET

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Theresa Barker

Once upon a time there was hardly any gay or lesbian copy in the whole big paper, and the copy that was there always resulted in nasty letters to the editor. So Rebecca got together with Sue and Rob, who also were pissed off. Together with Loren and Alisa and Katherine, they plotted and planned, and came up with a big solution. They would do a whole issue of the paper with almost nothing but lesbian and gay content! They thought this sounded like a marvellous idea. They got together with more people: Barry brought his ideas, and so did Monica and Shannon. Together, they'd plan a paper that really said something! One day when they were planning, Bill was struck with a terrible thought: What was everyone else at this university going to think? "If they send us nasty letters just because of a few articles and cartoons, just think what they might do now!?"

"They'll firebomb us, of course," laughed Ian.

"They'll hate us forever!" cried Matt.

"NO! Wait a second!" Rebecca pointed out, "Maybe they'll learn something!"

Don nodded. "Ya! Lesbians and gay men aren't any different from anyone else, except for what they do in bed!"

"Well, that's none of anybody's business, anyway!" Sam yelled.

"Then why does homophobia exist?" asked John.

"Some people don't understand that being gay is only one aspect of our personalities," Eric explained. "We're not sick, or perverted, or depraved."

"Speak for yourself!" shouted Susan.

"Well, they will understand when they read this paper . . . if they've got enough guts to do it!"

The *Martlet* is editorially autonomous and a full member of Canadian University Press (CUP), we subscribe to the CUP statement of principles which states we will print no sexist, racist or homophobic copy and we will cover issues and events from an alternative angle to that of the mainstream press, so we may initiate social change.

The *Martlet* is published by the Alma Mater Society of the University of Victoria. The *Martlet* editorial and business offices are located in room 109, Student Union Building. Correspondence should be addressed to the *Martlet*, Student Union Building, P.O. Box 1700, Victoria, B.C., V8W 2Y2. You can call us at (604) 721-8359 for advertising and at (604) 721-8361 for reports. Subscriptions can be purchased at $20 per year.

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Projectionists to vote on striking

by Mike Gower

The B.C. projectionists' union has authorized Cinecenta's projectionists to take a strike vote over wages.

Jay Daulat, president of local 348 of the union, says the negotiating team has reached an impasse with the AMS Board of Directors in reaching their first collective bargain. The impasse is over wages and benefits.

Daulat says all non-monetary issues have been agreed on, but wage rates and statutory holiday pay remain "major stumbling blocks."

However, Paul Barron, spokesperson for the AMS negotiating team, says the AMS is "open to continued negotiations" and the union is bargaining in bad faith.

"I'm very surprised by this move (to go public on the negotiations). It shows bad bargaining practice to bring in the media, especially when they informed the media and they haven't informed me yet," said Barron, who is also manager of Cinecenta.

Barron declined discussing details of the collective agreement, but pointed out 26 of 28 clauses were agreed on quickly.

"We believe negotiations have gone well to date. The only issue that remains unresolved is the wage issue, and we were waiting for word from them on that."

Daulat said the union is asking for $8 per hour for the four Cinecenta projectionists, plus $1 per hour premium for working on statutory holidays, plus 4 percent vacation pay.

The maximum wage paid to other students employed by the AMS is currently $7 per hour — for supervisors and typesetters in the Graphics shop.

Most experienced staff in the building receive $6.00 per hour with the projectionists and other specialists making $6.50.

According to projectionist Russell Katzer, the difference in pay between the supervisors and projectionists is a concern. Up until this year their wages were on par with supervisors, but supervisors were given a larger raise this fall.

"I had already spoken to (VP Finance) Gary Gisel and Paul about the rationale for this decision and they said it was good management to pay supervisors more than the workers," he said.

Daulat agrees this discrepancy is a concern and that typesetters receiving the supervisor wage brings the BOD's argument into question.

Ida Shea, Graphics Shop manager, says the typesetters receive a higher wage because the job is very demanding and the shop depends on their work.

"They are performing a highly skilled job — it's not just typing. They are expected to know how to type at least 60 words a minute and *then* learn a very complicated and difficult typesetting programme quickly," she said.

Shea added that she did not think the typesetters were paid enough.

When questioned as to why wages had become an issue, when Katzer had told a BOD meeting in November that "wages are not the issue," Daulat said the BOD had misunderstood Katzer.

"I also made that comment. We meant that we were not going to ask for what we make in our regular theatres — our wages start at $25 an hour and go up as high as $40," he said, adding that it was "rather unfortunate" the BOD had interpreted his comments as meaning the projectionists would not ask for a raise.

Barron says, "The Board was led to believe a wage increase wouldn't be asked for," and that its decision not to intervene was based partially on this information.

Daulat says the union's stance on wages is not unreasonable in relation to what student employees are being paid at other post-secondary institutions.

Simon Fraser University student society employees are organized under CUPE and receive $11.50 per hour with the figure reaching $12 per hour in 1990-91, says Daulat.

Barron, however, says SFU is a completely different situation from UVic, where jobs are reserved for students.

"SFU employees are professional non-student employees. They also have more than double the student fee levied at SFU that UVic does."

The (UVic) students' union wishes to maintain its students-only hiring policy," he says.

However, Stephen Howard, resource coordinator for the SFU students' society says about half the 26 employees at SFU are students receiving hourly wages of about $12 per hour. The full- and part-time permanent jobs which can be held by non-students pay almost $16 an hour.

Howard says he was very surprised to learn what the AMS pays its employees. "It makes even UBC look like a good employer," he said.

Barron, however, says that SFU has shifted away from employing students. "Although we have lower wages, we can justify it by employing more students and keeping the cost of services down," he said.

Daulat believes that the wages are too low for student employees in the AMS "in relation to what is being paid at other institutions."

When asked if the union was aware that Cinecenta was $6000 in the red as of Dec. 31, 1988, and had lost over $30,000 in the past five years, Daulat said "we have no way of verifying those figures."

He said he was skeptical of the losses, pointing out he does not know if Cinecenta pays rent to the AMS or what their advertising and promotion costs are.

"I understand they are taking in $1000 a day, which is more than some of our commercial theatres make. How can they be losing all that money?" he said.

Barron, however, says Daulat's figure is "absurd."

"On an average day we make $300 per evening on the shows and $150 off the munchie bar. Of course it varies considerably, but that's the average. That's the gross revenue without taking costs into consideration," he said.

Daulat says that "at this very moment" (Tuesday) he is drafting a letter to the AMS asking to see their financial statements if they are going to make an "inability to pay argument," which they should be receiving sometime today.

Barron says the AMS has not indicated an inability to pay argument will be put forward and as far as he is concerned, negotiations should continue.

"We've been trying to play fair. We've made it cleat to the union that any pay increase will drive us more into debt and our services will decrease. Any money that goes to the workers has to come out of somewhere else. This is a non-profit society, not Cineplex-Odeon."

"I'd like to stress that we would like to get back to the bargaining table. We wanted to avoid negotiating through the press," he said. □

Continued from page 4

ing degrades women by placing them in a specific, demeaning sexual context. Accepting this for the moment, is this sexism any different from that in the infamous lesbian cartoons? The "Portraits of Panic" champion a particular form of sexuality, too. Furthermore, they demean men by ignoring them or presenting them as bumbling fools. Do you remember the ex-boyfriend barging in on the lesbian couple, inspiring laughter from his replacement? I freely admit that this degradation of men is tenuous, perhaps trivial, but I would say the same of the degradation women that occurs in cheerleading.

Cheerleading and lesbian cartoons make exactly the same sort of "sexist" statements; they are the opposite sides of the same coin. I support the rights of homosexuals, but I also think that cheerleaders and frat boys and the like need love too. Freedom of expression is for everyone, not just the downtrodden.

Ken Feser

P.S. — By emphasizing the maleness of those who protest lesbian cartoons, you validate the very sexual dichotomy you claim to oppose.

Don't be so concerned

Editors:

I would like to respond to all the letters you receive regarding the *Emily* and "Portrait of Panic". I see the *Emily* as a very important and valid voice of women at UVic. It concerns me that the criticism of these topics are mostly from men. Do women have nothing to say or are their comments being edited out?

In terms of reading the *Emily*, it appears as a quarterly and as a pull-out section. If you are concerned about wasting your time reading it — pull it out. If you are concerned about the paper being wasted — recycle it. If you are concerned about the women who write it wasting their time — stop being concerned — there are people who appreciate it.

Regarding "Portrait of Panic", I agree with most comments that it is often not humorous at all, and has been offensive at times. But, I do not believe that having it on the "funny pages" as one of nine other comics misrepresents the student body. In fact, it appears to me that the other factions fo our population are represented in equally humourless fashion.

Perhaps the axe should be sharpened to be used on all of them, or alternatively, the name of the "Thursday Funnies" be changed to the "Not So Funnies".

Devorah Kahn
3rd year, Nursing

Confine the panic!

Editors:

In recent issues of the Martlet (Feb. 2, Feb. 9), several letters to the editors have concerned the "Portrait of Panic" series of "cartoons". All the opinions have been from male readers. As a female, I, too find these "comics" an insult and an embarrassment to women. This week's "portrait" was a surprisingly mild dig at the Pro-Choice movement, but past weeks have advocated matriarchial ideals (my thanks to Dan Schrier for defining the term), which do not belong on the funnies page. If enough suitable material cannot be found to fill the funnies page, why not extend the MartletPlace to the back page? I would like to see the "portrait" series confined to the *Emily*, not on the funnies page! Perhaps the cartoonist has a rebuttal?

Cheryl Peterson

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Gay rights: Challenging the charter

by Sam Archer

A case will be heard in federal court this year which could have an important effect on every lesbian and gay couple in Canada. Jack Nesbit of Courtenay is suing the federal government claiming discrimination based on his sexual orientation.

A little over a year and a half ago, Jack's partner, Jim Egan, turned 65 and began receiving a federal Old Age Pension. When Jack turned 60, he applied for the spousal allowance given to those over 60 married to or living in a common-law relationship with a pensioner. He was refused.

The federal government gave firm rules governing what they would consider to be married in accordance with civil law, and common-law couples had to be living as man and wife for a period of at least one year. In both cases, partners were to be of the opposite sex.

Jim Egan finds Ottawa's definition of a "couple" amusing: "I could go down to the local senior citizens centre and shack up with a woman and, bang, a year later she begins to get a pension. But, even though Jack and I have been living together for 40 years, because we're both men . . . nothing."

Jim and Jack took their concerns to Victoria lawyer David Vickers, and were advised the federal government could be sued for breaching section 15 of the Canadian Charter of Human Rights and Freedoms, which prohibits discrimination based on sex. Whether sexual *orientation* is included in the term "sex" will be decided by this case.

The federal Charter Challenge programme took up the case last year. This is the first case of this type, dealing with sexual orientation, to be funded under the programme and reach the court stage. Two other cases previously under consideration were settled out of court.

So far, Ottawa has been slow to respond to this particular case. It only has until the middle of this month to provide its defense arguments, after which the case will be argued in federal court. Subsequent appeals could be carried all the way to the Supreme Court.

Interest in the case has been high since the case was first proposed. Jack and Jim have been interviewed by a number of newspapers and magazines in Canada and the U.S., and the couple have been interviewed for radio and TV as well. They've received letters of support from groups such as the Right To Privacy Committee of Toronto, the Coalition for Gay Rights in Ontario, the B.C. Civil Liberties Association, and the Canadian Human Rights Committee, as well as letters from individuals across Canada.

If the case is successful, the courts may force the federal and provincial governments to modify existing human rights legislation, in addition to other laws. Income tax regulations would have to be changed to recognize lesbian and gay couples, survivor benefits would be given the strength of law, and partners could claim each other under provincially-funded medical insurance plans, just as partners in heterosexual common-law couples can do at the present time.

A successful case, says Egan, will grant lesbian and gay couples "absolute equality with all other Canadians who take these rights for granted."

It was three years ago that the federal Minister of Justice said in the House of Commons that sexual orientation was no longer to be considered valid grounds for discrimination, and this case will test the government's support of this position. □

Refugee status: Fighting to stay in Canada

by Rob-Patrick Taylor

The January 1 refugee deadline was the main reason Jaime Higgins came home.

Although Jaime was born in Canada, his two-year residence in the Dominican Republic brought with it a lover, Domingo Cortes, and a need to find a way to give Cortes permanent residence in Canada.

"As a gay man, I have no legal recourse for having a permanent relationship with my partner turn into landed immigrant status unless my partner was a foreign woman with whom I could marry," Higgins said.

"We have no recourse other than applying for refugee status for Domingo."

Cortes applied for refugee status before January 1 of this year, which was the deadline before new legislation for refugee claims came into effect.

Approximately 85,000 people are now waiting to see if Canada will accept them or not.

Higgins, whose base for the last seven years has been Toronto, is not happy with the refugee procedure.

"It is a proven fact that Canada needs immigrants in order to maintain the proportion of working people in this country, because we do not have a high enough birth rate to do so naturally . . . plus the jobs that these people get are not being taken by Canadians.

"I am also unhappy that we have had to apply under the refugee claimants clause, because of the uncertainty involved."

Cortes has some points in his favour because he is not applying for financial assistance from the government. Higgins will provide financial support. This is one of the criteria which may make his procedure easier. He is, however, not in danger of being killed if deported to his country, as many applicant will certainly claim. Both are hoping for the best.

"We are aware of the possibility of immigration not accepting Domingo, but if you were in my position, you would probably try to bend the rules as well," Higgins said.

Higgins would like to see the system amended to include same sex relationships under the immigration clauses that refer to partners who marry to obtain residence in Canada.

"We do not have any other choice, given the discrimination we face as a couple of the same gender in a country without legal status for gay couples."

Cortes agrees, "I have many things to contribute to Canada and Canadian culture. It is a shame that I have to come into this country under the refugee procedure and I hope that someday things will change."

Many gay people do use the marrying procedure to enter Canada and achieve landed immigrant status. Although this requires living with a friend of the opposite sex for two years, those gay couples who are confronted with the immigrant problem find ways to cope.

"We know that Domingo could marry a friend of ours, but that is a complication we are hoping to avoid," Higgins said.

He said immigration officers are very thorough, "even to the point of checking closets."

"This procedure adds just one extra legal hoop that gay people must jump through in order to secure their rights to happiness. It is not solving the issue," said Higgins.

Higgins hopes that by amending the Charter of Rights clause to include sexual orientation, gay couples faced with the immigration procedure may be able to state honestly their intentions.

"In the long run, this issue must be covered by some human rights legislation," Higgins said. □

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Information Meeting

Date: Friday, 17 February

Time: 12:30 p.m.

Place: Cornett B239

The School of Community and Regional Planning, U.B.C. — Canada's premier planning school — will present information on careers in the profession.

Everyone is welcome.

ATTENTION ALL STUDENTS:

THE FOLLOWING ARE THE POLICY MOTIONS THAT HAVE RECEIVED DUE NOTICE FOR THE STUDENT'S UNION (AMS) GENERAL MEETING OF FEBRUARY 27, 1989

POLICY — CONDUCT OF GENERAL MEETINGS

1. The Board of Directors shall be seated on the stage during a General Meeting.
   a. If the General Meeting is not being held in the Cinecenta, an equivalent set-up will be established.
2. A Question Period is to be placed on the Agenda.

POLICY — STUDENT AT LARGE POSITIONS ON COMMITTEES

1. All committees formed by the Board of Directors shall contain at least one Student at Large position open to members who do not hold a student elected office.

POLICY — THE STUDENTS' NEWSPAPER

1. The Board of Directors shall subsidise an official autonomous Students' Newspaper, hereinafter referred to as the Martlet.
2. The Martlet shall have a constitution which shall be ratified at a General Meeting of the AMS.
3. The Martlet designates shall enter into a contractual agreement with the AMS, the terms of which shall be negotiated bi-annually by the President and the V.P. Finance.
4. Any contractual agreement entered into by the AMS and the Martlet shall set, for a minimum two year term:
   a. a floor and a ceiling on the amount of subsidisation allocated to the Martlet by the Board of Directors and
   b. the advertising and insertion costs for AMS and its subsidiary organisations, to a maximum number of pages as specified in the contract and
   c. the number of issues to be published.

1. Be it resolved that the Alma Mater Society adopt a policy of only funding on-campus student organisations except when directed by unanimous consent of the Board of Directors.
2. Be it resolved that the Alma Mater Society adopt a policy of asking the members of the Society at least every three years to reaffirm their desire to have the society associated with outside organisations.
3. Be it resolved that the Alma Mater Society adopt a policy of large scale off-campus fund-raising for the purpose of establishing an undergraduate bursary fund.
4. Be it resolved that the Alma Mater Society adopt a policy of automatically asking for the resignation of any Director who misses more than three Board of Directors' Meetings without first obtaining unanimous permission of the other Directors.
5. Be it resolved that the Alma Mater Society adopt a policy of publishing a list of its committees, the committee membership, and the committee meeting times outside of the Directors Lounge and the General Office.
6. Be it resolved that the Alma Mater Society adopt a policy of publishing a list of committees and the purposes of the committees in AMS Members' Handbook and in the first September issue of the Martlet.

Coming out: dealing with the fears

by Loren L. Griffyn

When, at twelve, I decided I wasn't going to get married, I don't think my parents believed me. Like most parents, they assumed I was heterosexual, and that one day I would eventually "find a man", settle down, and breed. However, I was totally unaware of this: I actually thought my parents were pretty cool. Unfortunately, I found out later how biased and threatened they really were towards others who were different than them.

When I was sixteen, I simply couldn't see what my high school friends saw in boys. It didn't concern me. I was not attracted to males in any way, shape, or form. I didn't consider *myself* abnormal — my friends were just silly for gossiping so much about those superficial, sickeningly macho males.

By the time I was 17, I found the word that labelled who I was. I didn't just *realize* I was a lesbian, I *knew* it. I didn't see the point in repressing my feelings. It would only have caused me unnecessary pain.

My first experience with "coming out" was to myself. Not yet prepared to deal with "coming out" on a public level, I was living in a suburb of a city, a very isolating place to be. I had no means of support from, or connection with, people like me. I didn't realize the women's or lesbian community existed, and had no way of finding out about it. I decided to wait and see.

Some months later, while flipping around on the radio, I came across some interesting music. I listened for the DJ to come on and identify the singer. After the song ended, they did, and announced what the particular show was called: The Lesbian Show. I nearly fell out of my chair. Surprised, amazed and intrigued, I continued listening. Within the span of three minutes I learned about women's dances, organizations, clubs, and volunteers needed for the continuation of this alternative radio station's show. I memorized the time and day and switched the dial just as my mom came in.

A week later I tuned in, a la headphones, and did so faithfully for two months. I was shocked, at first, to hear the "L" word so freely used. Although I was scared, I was also curious. I decided to "take the plunge" and volunteer for the radio show. Sooner than I had hoped, my identity was revealed to my parents. My mom had inadvertently tuned into the show.

There seem to be several stages some parents go through after their child comes out: 1) denial — the "it's just a phase" stage; 2) guilt — the "Oh my god! What did we do to deserve this!" stage; 3) anger — the "No 'gay' people in *this* house!" stage; and 4) the eventual 'acceptance' stage (some do reach this stage after a time).

These reactions have basically alienated me from my family. I have withdrawn myself from my parents' life, after constantly having been shut out in my attempts to provide them with lesbian/gay positive books and opportunities to talk with me.

I am glad that I took the risk of being honest with them. After almost five years of "being out", they are beginning to accept the fact that being a lesbian is not a "phase" or a "trend". It does not make me any less their daughter. It is who I am.

I haven't escaped being brainwashed by the patriarchal, hierarchical society we live in. I find it very difficult to come out publicly unless I'm damn sure it's safe. I fear heterosexuals fears of me. If I do come out it's because I feel good about myself and I feel that it's important to be visible to others who seem only to be aware of the status quo.

That's why I think this edition of the *Martlet* is so important. The University is a centre of learning: minorities on this campus need to have a voice to teach others about our experiences. Perhaps this can dispel the awful stereotypes that manifest when minorities are silenced and censored from the mainstream.

I have found that heterosexual people who are secure in their own sexuality are much more open to sexual orientation differences. It seems that those who do feel, or possibly have felt, an attraction to their own sex are often the ones who are most reactionary, outspoken, and homophobic.

Why do people fear lesbians and gay men? Do straight people think that if homosexuality were acceptable, suddenly everyone would be into it? Are they afraid they might find homosexuality to be more appealing than heterosexuality?

Maybe some heterosexuals really are scared, but they don't do us much good. These members of society are usually the ones who also perpetuate the negative myth about lesbians and gay men. One of my pet peeves is the ridiculous assumption that lesbians are "pseudo-men", and that we will "go after" straight women. As a lesbian, I am attracted to other lesbians. Straight women do not interest me. How do I know that another woman is a lesbian? Lesbians and gay men seem to be able to recognize each other because our survival depends on it.

I have also found that men are often incredibly threatened by lesbians. Because lesbians exist independently from men, men have no power or control over us. We're labelled as "man-haters". Every lesbian I have ever met has gay and straight male friends. Unfortunately, we're not seen as women who have chosen to live with and love other women. Somehow the idea of wanting to be with women is not seen as a positive choice because of women's second class status in this patriarchal society. I do not agree with the patriarchy, and I try to strive (at least in theory) towards an egalitarian society, one which does not put emphasis on one's sex or sexual orientation.

From my experience it seems that most lesbians are more politically aware than gay men, and this is largely because of the feminist movement. I am not saying that all lesbians are feminists, or that all feminists are lesbians. You don't have to be one to be the other.

Even though lesbians and gay men are often included together in publications such as this, lesbianism and male homosexuality are not the same thing at all. Both lifestyles include loving people of the individual's own gender, but that's as far as the similarity goes. Lesbians are women, and we cannot be compared to men (gay or straight) because we are not men.

People create myths and fears about each other because of a lack of understanding. These attitudes hurt all of us. Everyone needs to overcome these labels of and assumptions about, each other. Being a lesbian is only a small facet of my entire personality — the sex of the person whom I go to bed with (which is no one else's business anyway) is not a fair basis on which to judge me. Everyone should appreciate their own, and others, unique qualities — what if everyone were the same? How boring. □

NOTICE OF STUDENT'S UNION (ALMA MATER SOCIETY)

GENERAL MEETING

FEBRUARY 27, 1989, 12:00 NOON AT THE CINECENTA

5 CONSTITUTION AND BYLAW PROPOSALS WILL BE PRESENTED TO THE MEMBERSHIP:

1. Reorganization of Existing bylaws.
2. Proposals for improving B.O.D.

Communication through Restructuring:

a. Course Union Representation.
b. Faculty Representation.
c. Increasing At-Large Directors from 11 to 15.
d. Restructuring Executive Portfolios by creating 3 full-time and 2 part-time Executive Director Positions.

The current Bylaws can be located in your members' handbook. Proposed changes are available in the S.U.B. General Office and will be distributed as an insert in next week's Martlet.

Legalizing homophobia:

by Eric Smith and Jo-Anne Pickel
Reprinted from the *McGill Daily*,
Canadian University Press

British police didn't know how to handle the demonstration and people were arrested for kissing in the park. Bobbies brought out their horses. They brought the entire London police out because they really didn't know how to cope with that massive demonstration gathering close to 48,000 lesbians and gay men.

What led thousands of men and women to protest that day in England was the adoption by the government of Conservative Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher of a legislation known simply as Clause 28 of the Local Government Bill.

"people were arrested for kissing in the park"

Passed in May, the clause makes it illegal for municipal authorities to use government funds to "intentionally promote homosexuality, publish material to promote homosexuality or promote the teaching of the acceptability of homosexuality as a pretended family relationship."

Thatcher is among the most adamant supporters of Clause 28, having attacked a sex education program which explained to children why there are gay people.

"Children who need to be taught to respect traditional moral values are being taught that they have an inalienable right to be gay," she said in a speech at a Tory conference last year.

While coverage about the bill has been non-existent in the Canadian media, in Britain, figures as diverse as Labour leader Neil Kinnock, Sir Laurence Olivier and The Pogues have all denounced Clause 28 as an unprecedented legalization of hostility against gay people.

Because the bill does not clearly define what it means to "promote homosexuality," critics also fear classics such as the works of French author Jean Genet, Thomas Mann's "Death in Venice," or the writings of Oscar Wilde could be banned from municipal libraries.

The clause was passed as part of a larger bill aimed at curtailing municipal powers. The other sections deal with economic provisions making it illegal for example for municipal governments to turn down contracts because of a company's investment in South Africa.

Speaking in the British Parliament, Neil Kinnock attacked the Thatcher government's arguments that the bill would not lead to abuses.

"No limpid assurances from ministers can change the fact that the output of geniuses, like the mundane work of teachers who want to prepare and counsel pupils for the realities of life, can fall foul of this pink triangle clause produced and supported by a bunch of bigots," he said.

Kinnock was referring to the pink triangles used in Nazi concentration camps to single out gay prisonners

Chris Smith, Labour Member of Parliament, has been one of the clause's most vocal opponents since it was introduced last year.

"The potential scope of the clause is enormously wide-ranging from support from teachers to books in stores to entertainment licenses for gay pubs and clubs," he said in an interview in Montreal.

Smith is the (only?) openly gay MP in Britain and was re-elected in 1986 after coming out under fire from the British tabloid press in 1984. (more details)

Although Clause 28 has yet to be tested in the courts, the British gay community is already feeling the effects. Smith tells of a gay-bashing incident which took place the night the bill was passed in which a gang beat up a gay man saying "Now that the clause has gone through we can get away with what we want."

If someone were convicted under the clause, gay activists believe the conviction would probably be overturned if the case were appealed to the European Court. Britain's membership in the European Economic Community means that a conviction under British law can be overturned by European law and other European countries have much more positive attitudes towards gay people.

Gay activists agree that the biggest problem they will face is self-censorship on the part of municipal government workers, including teachers and librarians. "This is already happening. Librarians won't order books. Teachers are saying 'I'm afraid to talk about that'," said Smith.

Jean Hill, a London lesbian activist working with the "Stop the Clause" movement is particularly worried about the effect the section will have on young people dealing with their sexuality in British schools.

"The major effect is going to be on young kids growing up, 14 and 15 year olds, who are starting to realize they may be gay. There's no one to talk to about this. They can't go to the teacher because she or he is not allowed to speak to them about it anyway.

"So what do they do? They hang around until they meet somebody older. They'll be 20 or 21 before they actually bump into a real gay person and they walk around thinking they're a freak for years on end because no one's got the right to tell them it's perfectly OK for them to be what they are because they face the sack."

Peter Smith, Deputy Consul General of the British Consulate in Montreal doesn't think there is any risk of such a wide interpretation of the bill and is not convinced there will be self-censorship.

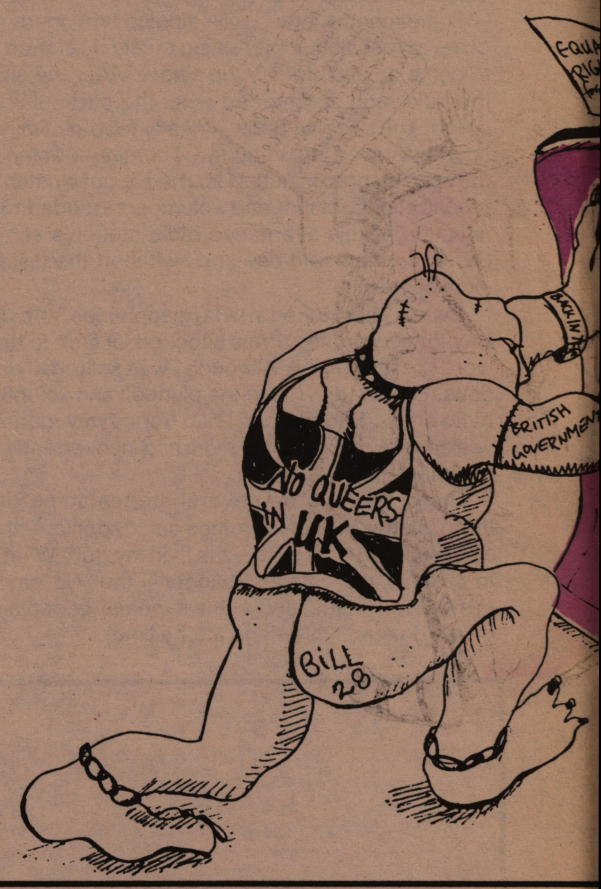
"This promotion of homosexuality is reasonably well defined. It does nothing at all to inhibit the providing of factual information or providing the rights for counselling."

"There has been so much of a backlash because of a more aggressive promotional method by one or two particular councils in London that there's a tremendous feeling among the public that this goes beyond the bounds of what we believe in Britain is morally correct."

Most of the parliamentary debate on the bill focused on the notion that there was a "promotion of homosexuality" that was corrupting school children.

According to Chris Smith, Conservative MPs brandished a book allegedly taken from a state school library called "Jenny lives with Eric and Martin."

The children's book told the story of a girl growing up with her father and his lover. "To hear the conservatives talk about it, you



Out of the po

by Matthew Hays
Reprinted from *The Link*
Canadian University Press

"I'M GAY SAYS MP," screamed the headlines of the London tabloids, in a way that only a London tabloid could. History had been made. Britain had its first openly gay member of parliament, Chris Smith.

Smith, a Labour Party MP representing the Islington South London riding, laughs when he recalls the front page headlines. "They chose the worst photograph they could find of me!"

After all the publicity in his 1984 announcement received, Smith was surprised at the response he got from constituents. "The thing which pleased me was that I had no hostile or adverse response from anyone except from one man who yelled at me briefly. Since then I've met with thousands of my constituents and I've not had any hostile responses. In fact I've had many positive comments."

A Ph.D scholar who studied at Cambridge and Harvard, Smith was a development worker for a housing co-operative when he decided to enter politics. His first campaign, run in 1983 amidst constant charges from his opponent that he was gay, was won by a slim 363-vote majority.

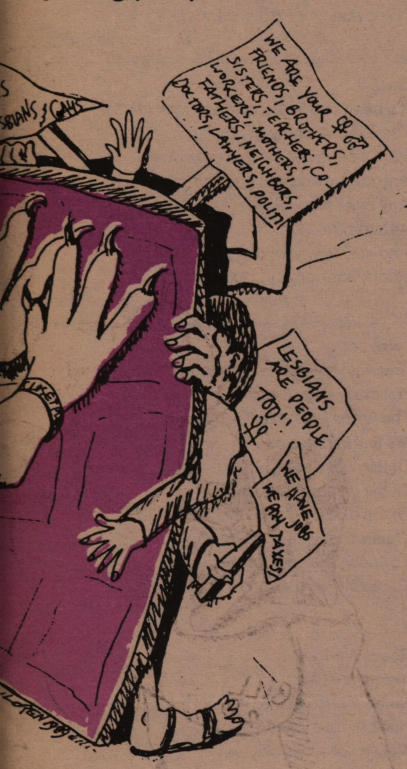
Four years later, Smith re-ran for elections, this time as an openly gay candidate.

Only in Britain you say?

would think it was required reading for all seven-year-olds. As far as anyone can tell it never went into a classroom. But debate centred around how terrible it was this book was going to be for children."

But Peter Smith says these concerns were justified. "The new provisions were introduced because of a growing concern about the use of taxpayers' money by some local authorities, only to strongly promote homosexuality.

"There was a real concern that some local authorities were endeavoring to glamorize homosexuality. Parents were becoming increasingly worried about public money being used in this way to influence the attitudes and behaviour of impressionable young people."


WE ARE YOUR SISTERS, BROTHERS, FRIENDS, TEACHERS, CO-WORKERS, MOTHERS, FATHERS, NEIGHBORS, DOCTORS, LAWYERS, POLITICIANS
LESBIANS ARE PEOPLE TOO!!
WE HAVE JOBS WE PAY TAXES

But he adds he does think the clause presents a threat to gay rights.

"The government has gone to great lengths to make it quite clear both in the debates and the notes around the section that the British government remains opposed to discrimination in any form. It is not intended in any way for this provision to limit the rights of homosexuals. And it doesn't.

"You have on one hand the great gay community. The gay community as such is unaffected by this as well as existing gays. The people who are perhaps being protected at this stage by this section are the younger children who, until this section came in, were perhaps running the risk of being subject as impressionable young people of definite promotion of homosexuality as guaranteed family relationship." (clean quote?)

The British tabloid press was instrumental in perpetuating these fears. The Labour Party's Chris Smith says they have carried feature articles condemming gay-positive books in school libraries. Hill also blames the tabloid press for its role in bringing about anti-gay paranoia.

"The clause itself only made news when some of the tabloids gave it support by saying it was really trying to stop schools giving gay lessons. So they were for it. That's what they thought it was trying to do. They thought schools were sort of teaching kids how to be gay."

Although there was some dissent during an earlier reading of the bill, the Labour Party ended up voting unanimously against the clause.

But the consulate's Peter Smith claims that it was because some Labour MPs are gay.

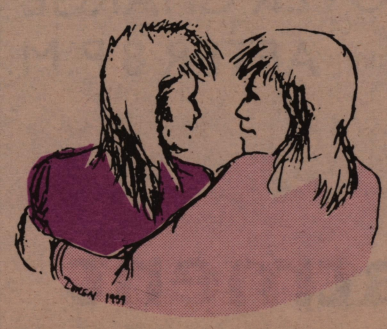
"One or two of the most vociferous opponents of the Bill were in fact in the Labour Party but that was perhaps to do more with their sexual orientation than the Party politics . . . Chris Smith is one of the leaders of the gay community. He's not totally unbiased on this issue."

The legislation has united the lesbian and gay community. Opposition to Clause 28 has been growing since the clause was first introduced.

"It actually mobilized the gay community for the first time in the UK," says Chris Smith. "There has been a display of political awareness that gays and lesbians have not up to now shown."

To date there have been four "Stop the Clause" demonstrations in London. One of them attracted over 30,000 protestors, another close to 48,000. Activists have found creative ways to demonstrate their opposition. During a parliamentary meeting on Clause 28, five lesbian protestors calling themselves the "absailing dykes" swung with ropes from the observers' gallery in an attempt to stop the proceedings.

Support has come from the British clergy, the trade union movement and the arts world. Four years ago, the gay community assisted the families of striking coal workers in northern Britain and Wales. Now mining contingents have participated in marches in the cities against the clause.



British artists have also demonstrated strong opposition to Clause 28, protesting its "effective censorship," says Chris Smith. Many artists, from Sir Laurence Olivier to Boy George have made public statements against the clause.

"I was handing out leaflets which were condoned by the Pogues and Joe Strummer," says Tina Davis, a London lesbian activist. "And I was getting quite a good reaction from a lot of straight people. But I think that has a lot to do with the fact that people in music know a lot of gay people anyway."

"Support has come from the British clergy, the trade union movement and the arts world."

The law will likely remain in effect as long as the Tories are in power. Until then, Britain will probably remain embroiled in anti-gay hysteria as threatened librarians will avoid ordering Oscar Wilde's novels and Joe Orton's plays.

"What does (Margaret Thatcher) want to do?" says Hill. "Does she want to rewrite the history of British literature?" (with files from Matthew Hays).

litical closet

The pressures during any election campaign are tremendous and for an openly gay candidate they increase exponentially.

"I was worried about what would happen. Obviously it was relatively uncharted territory. I discussed it with my campaign workers. We decided that if the issue of my sexuality were brought up by constituents during the campaign, we had three responses for them. Firstly to ask, isn't it better to have an MP who's honest for a change? Secondly, to point out that the fact that I was gay hadn't altered my ability to speak for everyone of my constituents. And thirdly, to point out that the Labour party believes very strongly in the rights of all people regardless of who they are."

Smith was re-elected with a larger majority than his previous victory, this time by 805 votes. While 805 ballots may not sound like a great majority, Smith notes that his victory went against the trend of the 1987 election, a year which saw the Tories sweep Great Britain, as Margaret Thatcher went to a third consecutive term as Prime Minister.

Reflecting on his political success, Smith advises all gay politicians who have come out in the open — such as Canadian MP Svend Robinson did last winter — to concentrate faithfully on the concerns of their constituents.

"Whatever you do, don't become a one-topic candidate. Let people know you're concerned about all the issues." □

Equality campaign

by Rebecca Games

Letters, petitions and invitations to MPs are all part of a national campaign to amend the human rights act to prohibit discrimination based on sexual orientation.

EGALE (Equality for Gays And Lesbians Everywhere), a gay rights group based in Ottawa is asking communities throughout the country to help in the campaign.

"We would like you, as groups and individuals, to write, phone or meet with your MP to renew the call to respect the commitment," said a recent EGALE press release.

Three years ago the Progressive Conservative government said they would "take whatever measures are necessary" to prohibit discrimination against lesbians and gay men. Many people are concerned that the government has changed their position, and are working to ensure the government remembers and follows through on this committment in a throne speech expected in early March.

On March 2, three days before the expected speech, there will be a fundraising reception in Ottawa. The theme will be respect for the committment.

If you cannot be one of the hundreds expected to attend, you can send a minimum of $20 for a ticket so someone who cannot afford one can attend.

People are encouraged to write letters that, along with their own personal remarks include these three points:

- the committment of three years ago and the expectation that the government will follow through on it.
- ask for the prime minister to renew the committment by a definite statment in his throne speech.
- an invitation for your M.P. to attend the reception and make a statment on your behalf.

Send a copy of the letter to the prime minister and/or your MP and also to EGALE if possible.

The address for members of parliament is: House of Commons, Ottawa, Ontario, K1A 0A6.(No postage necessary).

EGALE's address is: P.O. Box 2891, Station D, Ottawa, Ontario, K1P 5W9

There are practice letters and petition forms available in the *Martlet* — come in and check them out. □

MARTLETPLACE

STUDENT EMPLOYMENT

DO IT NOW!! Summer Management positions available: L. Mainland, Island, Interior. Average earnings exceed $10,000. Call College Pro Painters, 384-8056.

Camping/trail-making, weekends. See Carmanah in the snow. In-town volunteers also needed. Call 381-1141 for details.

AIDS Vancouver Island needs volunteers! Applications are being accepted for March Orientation. For information and applications please call: 384-2366, Mon. - Fri. 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

SUMMER MANAGEMENT positions available. No investment necessary. Earn $5000 - $10,000. For more information call 479-7033.

QUALITY STUDENT Painters will be on campus February 13 - 17. Hiring students for summer employment. Painting $6 - $8/hour, depending upon experience. Manager $3,000/month & up. Phone (406)286-2249 or send resume to 4242 - 40th Ave. NW, Calgary, Alta, T3A 0X1.

TREE PLANTERS WANTED. If you are in good physical condition, don't mind living in a camp with 20 to 40 other people, and if you aren't afraid of hard work there is an opportunity for you to make some good money. Talking Tree Forestry is now hiring for the upcoming Spring Planting Season which is from mid-April (whenever your last exam is written) until mid-July. We are approaching our 10th season and have well organized and equipped camps with professional cooks and excellent food. Most of our work is in the Okanagan and Kootenays with some in the Cariboo. Planters are paid on a price per tree basis and are expected to supply their own accommodation (tent, camper, trailer, etc.), tools (bags and shovel) and adequate clothing, raingear and footwear. Tree planting is not for people who are solely interested in the romantic aspects and the beauty of the great outdoors. The job requires stamina and motivation and can be repetitious and dirty but the rewards both monetary and otherwise are there. Application forms are at Student Employment and interviews will be in early March. Phone 380-9891

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PROFESSIONAL TYPIST. 23 years experience. Essays, theses, resumes. APA, MLA, etc. Various typeface choices available. IBM self-correcting electric. 8 MINUTE WALK FROM CAMPUS. Judy Pitcher, 477-7361 or 592-8254.

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MISCELLANEOUS

The B.C. Educational Association of Disabled Students is holding its 2nd Annual Conference for Disabled Students in the Four Seasons Hotel (Vancouver), February 15th to 17th. A limited number of subsidies are available to pay for hotel and transportation costs. Any interested, disabled students should inquire at Counselling Services.

ADOPTION: Happily married couple wishes to privately adopt infant. Can offer much love and security. Confidential and legal. Phone 383-3473 or 477-9836 evenings.

SUPER STUDY. Improve memory and concentration with self hypnosis. The Wellness Centre. 380-6769

HOW WOULD you like to spend half an hour or more in a social situation that could change your life? Gain a new level of insight, come write for the Martlet, SUB 109.

THE UVIC STUDENTS' UNION Women's Steering Committee is putting together a single parent babysitting exchange list. If you are interested in exchanging babysitting hours, please submit your name, address and phone number to the Women's Centre mailbox, outside the general office. An on-going list of those wishing to participate in the swap will be kept in the Women's Centre in the Students' Union Building.

LOST AND FOUND

LOST: At MacLaurin or U. Center, Black Sony Walkman, Auto-reverse, tape/radio. Found $$$ Call: 477-9429 IMPORTANT!!!

FOR SALE

HAWTHORNE BOOKS. New & used books. 10% student discount. Free search service. Mail order worldwide. Libraries purchased. 1027 Cook. 383-3215.

WANTED to buy. Tree planting bags and shovel. John, 370-7089.

FOR SALE. Mazda 808 wagon, rusted in places, engine runs very well, $575 or best offer, 721-0544.

PSST . . .

University man intending to pursue employment in Japan in fall wishes to meet male or female with similar intent. Respond Martletplace Box No 2.

DP
We met last semester
But what's happened now?
I still want to be a friend
Just give me a chance
And take care . . .

Your math buddy

NEED HELP with a problem? See the Ombudsperson, Lynda Dunham-Wilkie, Monday, Wednesday and Thursday 9:30 - 4:30, Room 133 SUB, or leave a note at the SUB General Office.

I AM NOT a Greek God, but then neither are you. Interested in long-term possibilities based on love over lust? Gay, male, mid-20s, intelligent, wide variety of interests, would like to meet you! Respond to the Martlet Classified Box No. 1.

ODE TO OUR "favorite" Marx Bros:
Two engineers once came to class so drunk and very late,
They stumbled through the lecture hall at an ever diminishing rate
The only thing that held them up and kept them on their course
Was a little psyched-out garden gnome — and the
reddish kiwi of course!

We love you.

LB:
I just met you but I feel I've known you a long time. Here's to the times and stories ahead, friend!

TO MS. SNUGGLES: I miss you and Roger more than anything else in my entire life. Come home soon for PBS and MCO2

— Mr. Snuggle Bunny

Susan:
It's been two years now and look at us . .
I dream of a lonely girl
Who sleeps lost in her lonely world
Any sunset I give to you
Any color that you like
All for you . . .
And still I'm waiting for you
Happy anniversary, I miss you!

Tom

I was born
Amongst the cold, snow and ice,
Not many days from
The winter solstice.
My first impressions
Of this world are
Of the harshest season;
Of the darkest, longest nights.
Thus was my lot in life decided,
To know true cold, but
To radiate pure warmth.

Winter Wizard

Roses are red,
Violets are blue,
Number one you are hot,
Number nine you are too.
To two volleyball players,
Love, a blonde and a brunette.

BOX NUMBERS:

For anonymity and confidential responses, Martletplace response Box Numbers may be rented.

Box numbers can be rented for $2.00 per week or $5.00 for three weeks. Payments must be made when the ad is purchased. Cost of the ad is in addition to cost of the box number. The week runs from Thursday to Thursday.

Ads should be submitted without a box number, but with a note to the Martletplace editor to add one before publishing.

The responses will be sealed individually in envelopes and placed in a private file. The Martletplace editor is obligated to attempt to contact the box number owner within two working days of its arrival.

The Martletplace editor is the only person entitled to box number information.

CLASSIFIED ADS

MUST BE TYPED (you can use our typewriters). 10¢/word for students. 15¢/word for non-students, 20¢/word for businesses. Minimum $1.50 for each ad. Deadline for classifieds is Monday at 11:30 am. Inquire at Martlet office, SUB Room 109, or send ads with cheque or money order to:

The *Martlet*, Student Union Building
P.O. Box 1700
Victoria, B.C. V8W 2Y2

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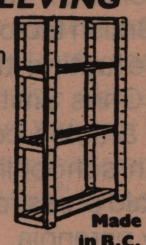

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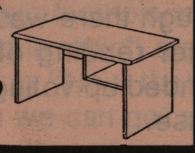

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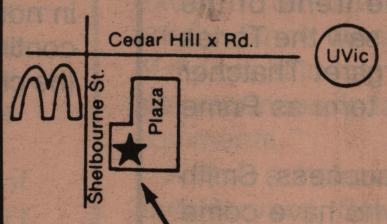

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Poetry

Words

vicious pricks
scratch
my ears (i)
scream
inside fire spreads
(i clench fingers tight
with blood red
liquid runs and
scatters before
my eyes
i turn
into myself
clamour
hot and vicious

boxed in
i exhale
red

Loren L. Griffyn

Water women

We do not want
to rock the boat,
you say, mistaking
our new poise
for something safe.

We smile secretly
at each other,
sharing the reality
that for some time
we have not been
in the boat.

We jumped or were pushed
or fell
and some leaped overboard.

Our bodies form
a freedom fleet,
our dolphin grace
is power.

We learn and teach
and as we go
each woman sings;
each woman's hands
are water wings.

Some of have become
mermaids or Amazon whales
and are swimming for our lives.

Some of us do not know how to swim.
We walk on water.

by ABC

In the beginning
there is space.
The space encourages
choice:
to breathe,
to expand,
to Be.
And, the space
is terrifying.

To choose
means,
right now,
and right here,
responsibility
for my written word.

To choose
is to empower
my Self.

to choose
to empower
my Self
is terrifying.

Until I let go
of the need
for perfection.

By Leigh Whittaker

in the dark

i seize
the opportunity
to lift
my covers' cover(ed)
secret

carefully
let you gaze
naked
as i am.
your eyes fear
ful
(i glance) retreat (hide)
unknowing
as
always

what you say (true? or
lies
from your mouth like
light that
creeps up
from under the door

Loren L. Griffyn

Affirmative

Gay men hunger too
for love
But dichotomous
Sensitive/male.
Maleness.

Wanting.
Striving.
In pain.
In vain.
Heartless.
Apartness.
Community shattered.
Gay ghetto
(once again)
Inherent.

Barry K. Mullen
For J. and D.

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Application Deadline March 15, 1989

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For information, contact:
Office of the Registrar
(403) 762-6180

The Banff Centre
School of
Fine Arts

WE REGRET
that we will be unable to provide graduation portrait sittings after February 28th, 1989, as this service is being discontinued.

We willl take bookings for sittings for the month of February only, while appointment times remain available.

For those Grads who have their protraits on file with us, we will continue to provide finished prints as requested.

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tickets: $5.50 for student, OAP, unemployed
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1/2 price for grad students

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The Canada Council
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Queen's University at Kingston offers a modern, discipline-based approach to the study of management in the complex organizations of today and tomorrow. The learning atmosphere in the School of Business is lively, informal, intimate and flexible. Persons from almost all academic programs will find MBA studies rewarding. Financial assistance is available.

Representatives from the School of Business will be on Campus and would be happy to meet with students of any Faculty interested in the Queen's MBA Program.

DATE: **Monday February 20, 1989**

TIME: **12:30 - 4:00 p.m.**

PLACE: **Clearihue C115**
University of Victoria

Presume irresistible: A lesson in sarcasm

by Alisa Gordaneer

He's so dreamy, I could just die! Just look at him! He's got a beer in his hand . . . see who I mean? Oh, god, what a man! He's *so* dreamy . . . No, *really*! He's got that 'look'. You know, like that, oh, what d'ya call it . . . that certain attitude . . . that *je ne sais quoi*, a perfect example of masculinity — that Adonis in Nikes . . . That body! He must work out . . . Oh, I would just die to be held by those arms . . . those bulging biceps that just reek of Polo and male essence, male aroma! He's such a hunk . . . such a he-man of the jungle, better than Tarzan ever could be . . . Oh, Tarzan of the bedroom, let me serve your every desire! Let me grovel at your knees, let me trim your toenails with my teeth! What a dream! And look! Those eyes! They're so perfect, blue and . . . oh, god! He's looking at me!! Me! That 'look' like he feels my stare! Look away, then maybe he won't notice . . . oh, that Look! It makes my insides feel all funny, sort of upside down and . . . oh, he's looking again! I can't look!

He's moving nearer. He has to dodge around the other people a bit, it's a crowded party . . . Maybe he's just going to get another drink . . . he moves closer . . . he has another drink, and I have an empty seat next to me . . . he's going to sit down! He's placing that tight ass on the sofa right next to me!!! I never expected something like this when I arrived tonight! Well, how surprises *do* pop up! Grinning, he offers me a beer. That smile, that Look . . . No beer, thanks . . .

"I'm Dick . . . and you are . . . Gorgeous!" Oh, gee! I've never had a compliment like that before! Wow, what a line!

"I have a name," and I tell him.

"That's really pretty . . ." He repeats it, mispronounces it. Well, I won't correct him. After all, everyone makes these little social faux pas once in a while, and it might insult him to be corrected by a woman . . .

"What do you do for a living? You must be a model — you have that 'look'." That 'look', alright . . . No, I'm not a model . . . "You should be . . . really!" Oh, these compliments! I can't believe he really means it! Me! A model! What a guy! That feeling returns to my stomach . . . I ask him a question — if I don't seem at least interested in him, he'll be hurt. Not too interested, though . . . don't want to lead him on — I'm not like that! I don't do *those* kinds of things!

He's giving me that Look, again. That irresistible glance that makes my stomach flip over, makes me feel like he's peeling my shirt off, "undressing me with his eyes", that's the phrase, like he's touching me all over with a look . . . Exposing me, and there I am, all his for the taking, defenseless and irresistible. My stomach quivers — that feeling again. He takes my hand, glances at my ring.

"Not a wedding ring, I should presume."

"You shouldn't presume anything, Dick. But no, it's not a wedding ring. In fact, I don't believe I'll ever get married to a man."

"Well! That's wonderful! I mean, that's a wonderful ring! And that you're not married! Uh — No! Uh — what I mean is . . ."

"Yes, I understand." Well, that one flew right over him . . . what next? The subtle approach?

"Yea, better just to have fun, know what I mean?" He nudges me in the tits with his muscular elbow. He touched me! Him! With his elbow! Does this mean he likes me? Does this mean he thinks I could be fun? Does this mean he thinks we could have a meaningful relationship, or does this mean he maybe wants to take me home . . .? Oh, the possibilities! It boggles the mind!

He's grinning again. "I like your earrings. Were they designed just for you! They seem to go with your personality, with your image!"

I've been sitting with him for ten minutes, and he already knows about my personality! What perception, such intuition! I wonder if he's psychic? My earrings are simple, really . . . little tomahawks I bought at the Grand Canyon last year . . . the woman in the bookstore there called them "labryses", but I simply have no idea as to where she got a silly name like that . . .

"So, do you live alone? I mean, by yourself?" He's accurate, precise, in his speech! Isn't that wonderful! I just love that in a man . . . it saves on the time you have to spend trying to figure out what they think they're saying! Well, this one's concise!

"Actually, I don't live by myself. My girlfriend and I have been living together for nearly two years."

"Oh, well, that's alright — maybe she'll be out tonight — or maybe we can go to my place after the party . . . for a drink?" He stretches, and suddenly his arm is around my shoulders! There is it — that suggestion of . . . *Something*! A drink at his place! Oh, be still my beating heart! He thinks this is the start of something, he thinks I'm someone to be starting something with! That feeling in my stomach returns, stronger than before . . . Maybe it's all those masculine pheromones he's secreting, or that Polo-scented strongarm that's wrapped around my shoulders like a boa constrictor about to do lunch!!! I'm overwhelmed, but still, I don't feel right letting him hold me like that. It's almost a bear hug, and I don't think I want this to get too far. I need to twist myself halfway off the sofa to escape.

"Oh, don't be so bashful! A gorgeous chick like you, but so shy! I won't hurt you! You must have been hurt by someone before, were you?"

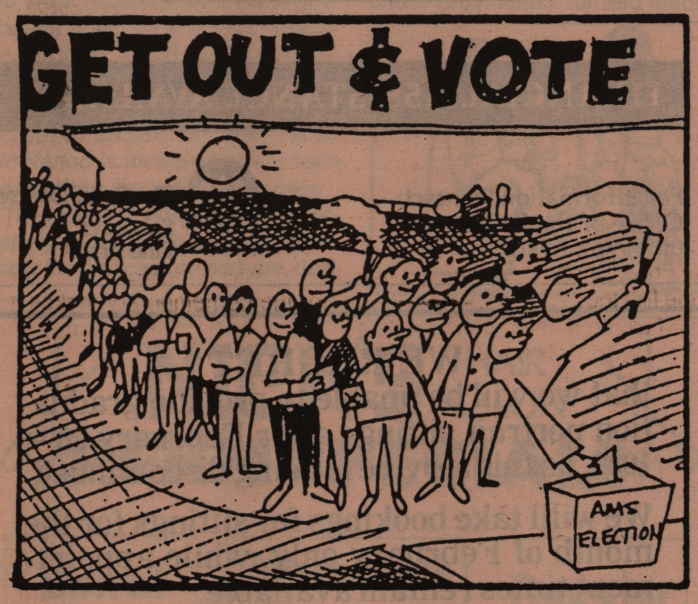
I shake my head no, but he pulls me back down beside him anyway. Evasiveness doesn't daunt him, no sir! He's a man that knows what he wants, and he goes out to get it! What a real example of strength, of pure masculinity! Not like those other guys, the ones I see at the bar all the time . . . *they* would never demonstrate their strength over a woman like *this*! He puts his arm around me again, and that feeling in my stomach gets stronger and stronger . . .

"A gal like you shouldn't have been hurt! Well, I'm not like all the other guys. I'll show you what you've been missing . . . I'm not like the others . . .!"

I stand up. "I'm not like the others, either!"

"There's a reason my other lovers have been different. They're called women. There's a name for the feeling in my stomach. It's called nausea."

He sits there, looking at me as I leave. He flashes me a leering grin. Just irresistible. □



CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

The Alma Mater Society, your students' union, will hold a General Election for the Board of Directors on Tuesday, March 14th and Wednesday, March 15th, 1989.

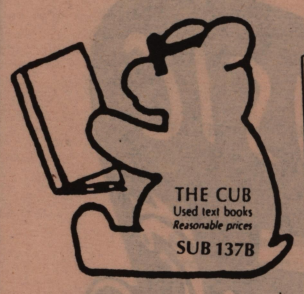
All undergraduate students are eligible to run provided they are not on academic probation. Nominations are open for eleven (11) directors. President, Vice-President Finance, vice-President Services, and Vice-President Academic. Nomination forms are available at the S.U.B. General Office.

Nominations Open:	February 16, 1989, 12:30 p.m.
Nominations Close:	March 6, 1989, 3:30 p.m.
Nominees meeting:	March 6, 1989, 3:30 - 4:30 p.m.
Campaigning period:	March 6, 5:00 p.m. to March 13, 12:00 midnight

All Candidates Meeting: Tuesday, March 7, 1989
12:30 p.m., Begbie Building Lounge
Wednesday, March 8, 1989
2:00 p.m., S.U.B. Upper Lounge

Directors will be expected to serve on the Board of Directors from May 1, 1989 to April 13, 1990.

alma mater society



CAMPUS USED BOOKSTORE

OFF-SEASON HOURS

Monday	1:00 p.m.	to	4:00 p.m.
Tuesday:	11:00 a.m.	to	2:00 p.m.
Wednesday:	9:00 a.m.	to	12:00 p.m.
Thursday:	10:30 a.m.	to	1:30 p.m.

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Come in and collect your cash-backs and view our newly arrived Lucky Bike Alarm, Bridgehead Coffee and limited edition Richard Hunt sweatshirts.

NOW THERE IS AN ALTERNATIVE!

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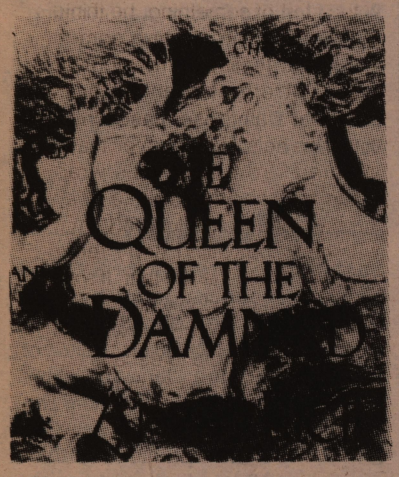
DEADLINE EXTENDED 'TILL MARCH 2

ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT

The Queen is damned



by M.C.Schraefel

Review of* Queen of the Damned *by Anne Rice, (fiction) 1988.

Many readers have anxiously awaited the third installment of Ann Rice's Vampire Chronicles series. After the nightmarish yet sensuous provocation of images and characters in her previous two Vampire novels, *Interview with the Vampire* (1976) and *The Vampire Lestat* (1985), her latest effort, *Queen of the Damned*, is a dim and, at times obnoxiously boring sequel.

Each of the novels in the series is "written" by a Vampire. In *Interview* the writer is Louis, a Vampire ever reluctant to be inhuman. In *Lestat* it is Lestat, Louis's maker. The underlying premise of both books is that for a Vampire to expose the truth about the Children of the Night (and there are scores — of various ages — hanging out in various Vampire Bars and covens) is to commit a sin of the highest order, punishable by death.

In the first two novels, the Vampire writers risk this death, or desire it, because of their own inability to rationalize their existence. In a fictional world that upholds the death of God, they see themselves as evil, a mistake. Whereas Louis can never reconcile himself to his position as a Vampire, and so would see the justice of his own immolation were he to be killed, Lestat embraces his evil Vampire nature. Seeking finally to be "truly good" by embodying a destructible Evil, Lestat, too, risks publication in the hopes that both humans and his fellow Vampires will war against him and rid the world of this symbolic and actual Evil. The problem is, of course, that no Vampire, like any living (or undead) thing, wants to die.

The quiet conflict of being trapped in a situation that is morally repugnant, but whereby the only solution to one's repugnance is self-annihilation (which becomes essentially a non-option) is the tension that keeps the action of the earlier Vampire pieces enthralling. In those two books, it functions on an internal level as the two characters struggle for meaning within their dilemma. In *Queen* the struggle becomes a pedantic, philosophical debate of world proportions that draws Rice into metaphysical waters way out of her depth.

This is not the only problem with the book, though it does dominate its second half. Besides weighing the book down with fragments of her husband's early '70s' poetry (yuck), Rice simply cannot seem to decide whether or not she wants this book to be a sequel or a stand-alone work in her series. Not content with a poem that re-iterates what happened — or was about to happen — at the end of *Lestat*, Rice flogs her past two books relentlessly throughout *Queen* to an absolutely nauseating degree. In *Queen*, everyone, Vampire and mortal, has read Lestat's book; everyone has seen his videos; everyone has heard his songs, bought his record, desired to kill him or wanted to defy him. We begin to feel there is nothing else playing on the radio or television set, no book or record being sold anywhere on the planet other than *The Vampire Lestat*.

Granted, much of the book's plot depends upon the wide-spread effectiveness of Lestat's tour de force, but its effectiveness was already demonstrated in *Lestat*. In consequence of this overdone re-narration, the series' previously enticing relation of the Vampire's deadly, sensual charisma is stretched beyond the point of both believability and bearability. The first part of the book becomes an unintentional parody of itself in its self-aggrandizing.

Rice also puts herself into a tight corner at this point in the series since her last two books covered both the lives of her main characters as well as her own genealogy of Vampiric creation. She is up to the present time. Where can she go? The first half of *Queen* therefore pulls out Vampire characters who were mentioned in *Lestat* and gives them a mini- biography, and then has all these leftovers drawn into the problems Lestat has created in their world. The synopses are unsatisfying in their brevity. At times they become no more than an opportunity to re-iterate a scene from the previous novels, perhaps to induce new sales of the older works.

The final half of the novel becomes bogged down in a moral conflict between "The Mother," of all vampires, or, as her friends call her, "the Queen of the Damned" and the remaining Vampires she allows to live for her reluctant lover Lestat's benefit. This part of the plot is dastardly dull. It indulges in wholesale scenes of destruction that lack any of the subtle, terrifying appeal of the earlier books. And when "the Mother" is not killing every male in sight in order to purify the world of the sex that breeds its problems, the plot stalls out in the argument that goes on between the Mother and the Vampires who are powerless to destroy her.

Any first year philosopher could dismantle the silly debate at issue — were s/he not threatened with imminent death for holding an unpleasing point of view. And Rice, of course, doesn't approve of the Mother's plans, but she presents them as if they were a feminist wish-fulfillment scenario that she's bound to prove wrong by putting in the hands of a megolomaniac who thinks she's a goddess with feminist leanings.

The one intriguing story of *Queen* is in the first female vampire Rice gives any moment to in the entire series, and that is Maharet. Maharet becomes the cool, sensual, wise, though unfortunately peripheral center of this Vampire chronicle. Rice seems scared to risk the weight of her story on a strong, caring, positive female character. Though her novels have always had a strong/good woman in a cast of many men, the woman is always pushed to the narrative's side, in fear perhaps that a female Vampire won't sell in place of the once charming Lestat.

Rice's choice to stay with Lestat in *Queen of the Damned* is most unfortunate. The book, quite simply, is out of control: it does not know where its story is; its lead villain/hero of the previous two books becomes a repulsively portrayed self-involved snot; its plot lines are sloppy, and it misses focussing on its own strengths. Perhaps if Rice had taken the risk and put this book into Maharet's hands for the telling and made Lestat the sideline (this is really what the book does anyway, without the narration acknowledging it, and that's where it fucks up), this could have been another potent Vampire Chronicle. As it stands, it is a gross $23.95 let down.

If you still want to know what *exactly* happens to Lestat and his friends, wait for the book to come out in paper back, and then wait another day for the paper back to show up in second hand shops. □

Desert Hearts and *Maurice*: a collective review

by Alisa
with input from the collective

Many films have been in mainstream movie theaters for only a few weeks, or a few days. For some, the reason is obvious — the film is simply too ridiculous to survive. *The Return of the Killer Living Dead Neighbors of the Slime Monster*, for example).

However, *Maurice* and *Desert Hearts* are two films which suffered the same box-office fate, but for a very different reason.

Both films are sensitive, witty, and engaging looks at romantic relationships . . . Isn't that what rakes in the ticket-booth bucks? Of course — but not when the main characters are lesbians or gay men.

Desert Hearts, based on Jane Rule's novel *Desert of the Heart*, is the story of an about-to-be-divorced woman in 1950's Nevada. Evelyn has come to stay at a ranch which serves as a "homey" hotel for six weeks in Reno which is owned by a woman named Frances. Frances has a step-daughter, Kay. Kay falls in love with Evelyn, even though Evelyn is ten years older. Evelyn doesn't want to, but she soon falls in love with Kay . . . steamy love scenes follow (which would inspire countless letters to the editor if they were to be printed here), and they all live happily ever after — maybe.

This film is not pornographic, nor is it overly sentimental. The collective (which included men and women, gay and straight) all enjoyed it, and made some comments: "I really liked the way relationships between women were portrayed — not only between Kay and Evelyn, but between Kay and Frances, and Evelyn and Frances, and the other women in the film too."

"Of all the lesbian-content films I've seen, this is the best. I'm glad a woman directed it."

"Frances' obsessive love with her dead husband really affected her relationship with Kay. Audra Lindley portrayed that really well."

"It's good to see that she (Audra Lindley) can act as something other than Mrs. Roper!"

"The sex scene was awesome!"

Maurice is based on a novel by E.M.Forster, the same person who wrote *A Room With a View*. The two films were also produced by the same people.

Although they have a similar style and flavour, and share some actors in common, *Maurice* is not simply an alternate version of *A Room With a View*.

England in the beginning of the twentieth century is not the easiest place to be a gay man, and Maurice finds that out. He falls in love with another student at Cambridge, and they have a relationship for some time. However, Clive becomes afraid of his love for Maurice, and decides to marry a woman. Naturally, Maurice is heartbroken, but he meets a gardener, and they all live happily ever after.

No steamy sex here, but tender scenes of love between two men that will not only open your eyes, but bring tears to them as well.

The collective found the film to be a bit too long, but enjoyed it nonetheless.

"When I saw it in the theatre, people were getting up and walking out. That's homophobia . . . it's a very poetic film."

"Seeing men in that context was so beautiful — so special."

"It really breaks down the stereotypes you may have about gay men. What a difference between this film, and the ridiculous portrayals I've seen in some other movies . . ."

"It's interesting that all the really good movies about homosexuals are set in a historical context."

"— Maybe taking the subject out of the contemporary makes it less threatening for the mainstream audience?"

"Terribly romantic."

Both films are readily available on videotape, and are well worth seeing, whether they reflect your own lifestyle or not. □

UNIVERSITY OF VICTORIA
An Education/Employment Initiative for University Graduates

The Ministry of Social Services and Housing and the University of Victoria, School of Social Work, have initiated an education/employment program for University graduates wishing to enter child welfare positions in northern communities in British Columbia.

This program offers the opportunity to obtain their Bachelor of Social Work degree as well as prepare for employment. Students selected for the program will complete three semesters of study, including a practicum, at the University of Victoria. Those who successfully complete their studies will obtain employment in child welfare in the provincial government and complete their B.S.W. degree through distance education.

QUALIFICATIONS

A commitment to:
Working with children and families.
Living in northern B.C. communities.

A Baccalaureate Degree

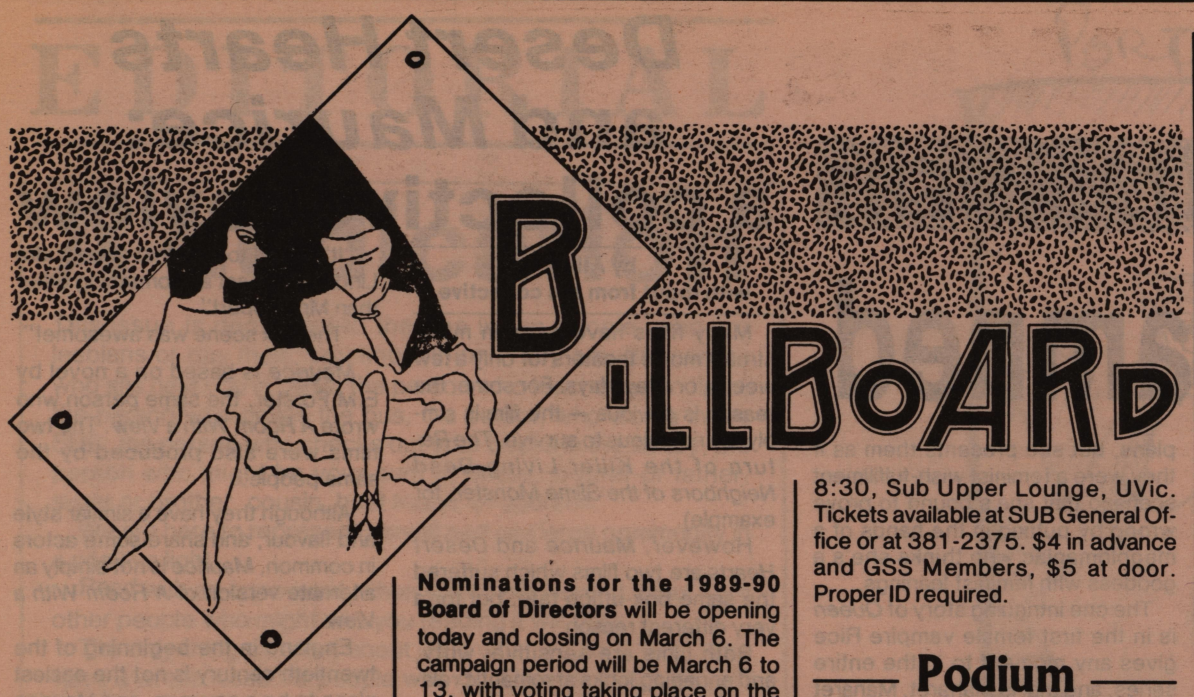
Preference to candidates with previous paid or volunteer experience in social service.

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Stipends during the study period will be available for applicants willing to work in northern communities. Applicants must satisfy eligibility requirements for employment by the Ministry of Social Services and Housing.

FOR INFORMATION AND APPLICATION FORMS
Contact:
Marilyn Henigman, Admissions
School of Social Work, University of Victoria
P.O. Box 1700, Victoria, B.C. V8W 2Y2
telephone: 721-8033

DEADLINE FOR APPLICATIONS IS FEBRUARY 28, 1989.



THURSDAY 16

University

Martlet staff meeting at 3:30 in SUB 146. Everyone welcome!

Wake the neighbours and call the dog. There will be a meeting of the **UVic Peace & Disarmament Group** at 12:30 in SUB 137A.

UNICEF, in conjunction with CIDA, will be putting on an International Development Day at UVic. The aim of this event will be to give students the opportunity to meet representatives of local international aid organizations, such as Amnesty International, Red Cross, and CUSO. These representatives will be handing out literature and answering questions on local volunteer involvement as well as worldwide operations. Tables will be set up in the central foyer of the Student Union Building for the representatives frcm 11:00 - 3:00 p.m.

Nominations for the 1989-90 Board of Directors will be opening today and closing on March 6. The campaign period will be March 6 to 13, with voting taking place on the 14th and 15th. The positions open on the BOD are President, Vice-President Academic, Vice-President Services, Vice-President Finance, and 11 Director positions. An electoral committee will be struck at the February 6 BOD meeting, and a campaign and materials production workshop is in the planning stages. If you are in any remote way interested in one of these positions and would like more information, drop by a Monday night BOD meeting.

Arraymusic, Toronto's nationally acclaimed New Age music ensemble, will play in SUB Upper Lounge, 8 p.m. Tickets are available at the SUB General Office. The price is $5.50 for students, old age pensioners and the unemployed, and $7.50 for all others. For further information contact Lise-Lotte Loomer at 721-8368 or Doug Secord at 721-8369.

Crossroads International and the UVic Grad Society present: **Valentine's Dance**. Music by **Balkan Jam Trio**, Thurs. Feb. 16. Doors open at 8:30, Sub Upper Lounge, UVic. Tickets available at SUB General Office or at 381-2375. $4 in advance and GSS Members, $5 at door. Proper ID required.

Podium

Yusaaf Salooje, the African National Congress Representative to Canada, will be speaking at the Cinecenta, 12:30 p.m. Salooje has been called back to Africa, so this most likely will be the last chance to see him speak.

The human and ecological impact of the devastation of Brazil's rainforest will be the focus of Amnesty International's next public meeting on Monday, February 20 at 106 Superior Street in Victoria. Environmentalist Vicki Husband will address the meeting on the issues raised by a land-use revolution in the Amazon watershed. The meeting begins at 7:30 and is open to the public. There is no admission charge.

Dr. Gerry Allen, Department of Biology, will speak on "Sex Ratios and Reproductive Patterns in a Dioecious Shrub", 3:00 p.m., Cunn 146.

Patrick White will read from *Habitable Planets*, his latest collection of new and selected poetry. Previous titles include *The God in the Rafters, Stations, Homage to Victor Jara,* and *Orpheus on Highbeam*. Patrick White is the poet laureate for Ottawa, and he was awarded the Canadian Literature Award for his poetry.

Natalie's
PIZZA
2 FOR 1 PIZZA & PASTA
Shelbourne at Feltham
(walking distance from UVic)
Open for lunch Mon - Fri 11 - 2 pm
DAILY LUNCH SPECIAL $2.99
Open daily 4 - 2 am Sundays 4 - 11 pm
Fully Licensed
46" big Screen Stereo TV
much music and sports channels
10% STUDENT DISCOUNT
— Eat in Only — with every order over $10 receive 10% off. Food only. Valid UVic I.D. please. One coupon per party.
FREE DELIVERY
721-1255
Offer expires: March 31/89

FRIDAY 17

University

Political Science Course Union is having a wine and cheese social for faculty and students from 5:30 - 10 p.m. The party will be held in Clearihue C305. Bring along your boyfriend, girlfriend or any friends!! This will be a special social, so come out and see what's going on!!!

TOGA
TOGA
TOGA
TOGA PARTY
'89
THURSDAY
FEB. 16
Win a grand prize of a Trip for 2 to Big White Ski Resort in Kelowna, B.C.
CLUB CALIFORNIA
1318 Broad St. (upstairs)
382-1331
open 7 nites a week
"Victoria's Largest Dance Floor"

Podium

The B.C. School of Art Therapy, the Western Canadian Branch of the American Psychiatric Association, and the University of Victoria are pleased to present Paul Fink, MD, President of the American Psychiatric Association. He will speak on the following topic of interest to those in medical and health care services: "The Value of Art Therapy to Psychiatry". 4:00 - 5:00 p.m., Begbie 159 (free admission).

Music

International Symposium at UVic: Leading musicians from around the world will gather at UVic School of Music Feb. 17 - 19 for a symposium on the evolution of the musical language. Speakers will consider the manner in which the form and content of classical music was transformed between the early 19th and early 20th centuries. Works by Schubert, Chopin, Wagner, Brahms, Wolf, and others will be discussed in the five-session conference. The performance takes place in the School of Music Recital Hall at 8:00 p.m. For further information telephone 721-8559.

SATURDAY 18

University

Jive Workshop 3!! Last chance to dance. A review of the first two, then learn lifts of five for airborn jive (guys, you don't need to be muscle-bound — just able to lift about 50 lbs.). When you've finished your jive enhancing, finish with an hour of *Dirty Dancing*! McKinnon Dance Studio, Sat. Feb. 18, 7 - 9 p.m., $5/person.

U/W Hocky Dance — UVic Scuba Club. Everyone welcome, tickets $3. 8 - 12, Fernwood Community Centre (1240 Gladstone). Music by CFUV.

Podium

Citizens For Foreign Aid Reform (C-FAR) presents Paul Fromm, Research Director of C-FAR, as the guest speaker, Skylite Intown Motor Inn, 2898 Douglas St., 2:00 p.m. Free admission.

SUNDAY 19

University

UVic Jive and Ballroom Dance Club has a simple motto: "Lead, follow, or get the heck out of the line of dance." Sundays, SUB upper, 7 - 10:30 p.m. $1/drop-in or $7/term.

Film

Regal behaviour bears throughout the world. *Bears: Kings of the Wild* looks closely at the black bear, polar bear, spectacled bear and panda. The award-winning BBC film, Grizzly, follows the life of the Alaska grizzly, from the first romp of a young cub to the skillful pouncing of a fishing adult. *Stonorov's Alaskan Brown Bear* studies the social behaviour of an amazing high-density bear population in the McNeil River area. Program: 75 minutes. $2, FORM $1, 12 & under free. 2 p.m., Newcombe Theatre, 675 Belleville St. For information call 387-5822.

MONDAY 20

University

UVic Walk/Run Clinic. Join us weekly in the McKinnon Gym lobby, Monday and Wednesday from 5:00 - 6:00 p.m. Registration is $22 and includes complete race packages for the Twin Peaks 10 km run on March 12 and the Vikes 5 km run on April 2, as well as two free t-shirts. If racing is not your game, then just come out and receive personalized counselling on nutrition, weight loss, weight traning, walking or running programs, proper running/walking attire and much more. Registration and information available at the Athletics and Recreation Office in the McKinnon Building.

Social Issues Committee meeting, Students' Union President's office, 4:30.

Board of Directors meeting 7:00, SUB Upper Lounge.

Podium

Sustainable Forestry for B.C. will be the topic for discussion by Tony Shebbeare of the Council of Forest Industries and Bob Nixon, editor of "Forest Planning Canada". This event is part of the Sustainable Development Seminar series. Cor B112, 8:30 pm. Open to the public, admission $2 (students and seniors $1.)

Other

Nature Lovers! Tell the government you care. Join the human chain to protest MacBlo's Carmanah Creek Logging Proposal. Noon in front of the Ministry of Forestry building, 1450 Government Street.

TUESDAY 21

University

Martlet editorial meeting at noon in the Martlet office, SUB Room 109. Everybody write 'dem editorials!

Adult children of alcoholics is a support group that meets every Tuesday at 12:30 and 2:30 in Cor A317. For more information call 721-4876 or 479-9392.

Free Legal Information available at UVic's Law School from 12:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Adult adoptees, birth relatives, and **adoptive parents** seeking reunions: The TRIAD Society for Truth in Adoption will meet at 7 p.m. at the Native Friendship Centre, 533 Yates St. (2nd floor). Everyone welcome. For further info, please call 598-9887.

WEDNESDAY 22

University

Women's Steering Committee meeting in the Women's Centre in the SUB at 12:30 p.m. All women are welcome!

Free Legal Information at the Law School at 3:30 p.m.

Podium

Dr. Bill Loughran, outstanding speaker and president of Technologies Research and Communications, animates the little-known oil and gas story of B.C. using slides, oil samples and more. 7:30 p.m. at the Newcombe Theatre, 675 Belleville St. $2/FORM $1/12 & under. For information call 387-5822.

BILLBOARD POLICY

Billboard submissions are more than welcome. In fact, they're wanted, desired and needed. If your club, band, organization, neighbours or friends are having something on that you think people should know about, let us know, and just maybe it will be the most well-attended thing ever. Submissions due Monday noon in Room 109 SUB.

SPORTS

Swim club invitation

VANCOUVER IGLA 1989

The English Bay swim club invites all interested people to come and participate in the 1989 International Gay and Lesbian Aquatics championships (IGLA 89), a preview to the aquatic events of Gay Games III — Celebration '90.

Events are being held over the Easter weekend (March 24 - 26, 1989) and include long course (50 metre) swimming, diving and water polo, ending with an Easter Sunday awards brunch. Participants who want to officiate are also being encouraged to attend.

This will be the third IGLA championship, born out of Gay Games II as a means to encourage friendly competition between various gay and lesbian aquatic clubs. We plan to continue the tradition started in San Diego in the first two championships of comradery and good times.

Our club has been operating for the past five years and we are proud to host this event in our home pool, the Vancouver Aquatic Centre, a first class facility.

Travel arrangements and accommodation can be made through Story Travel (604) 669-4611 (collect), who has arranged concessionary airline fares and will channel a portion of the commission to Gay Games III. Our club will arrange billeting for people who want this service.

For a registration package or further details please write in care of the Vancouver Aquatic Centre or feel free to call at (604) 669-2382 or 689-0334. □

Vikes Rugby

The UVic Vikes Rugby team plays host to the Victoria University of New Zealand this Saturday, February 18, at the McCoy Road field. Game time is 2:30 p.m. Bx

Soccer

On Saturday afternoon the UVic Vikings soccer team opened their "second" season in the newly formed B.C. Intercollegiate Soccer League. Their opponents, the Capilano College Blues, who recently captured the Canadian Championship amongst small colleges, were no match for the domineering Vikings, who showed little regard for the Blues' success. Led by Steve Cecchi and Ron Budisa with two goals a piece, UVic shutout Capilano 6 - 0, with singles coming from Scott Harris and Eric "Loaf" Ladner.

Capilano missed their chance to get onto the scoresheet when a penalty kick awarded to the team, after a foul by Mike Baird, was shot high and wide over the head of UVic keeper Bruce McKenzie. McKenzie shared the Vike's shutout with Jon Bos.

League play will resume in early March, after the Vikes return from their ten day Florida tour. UVic will be competing amongst some very strong opposition in Florida, including the Boca Raton team, which went undefeated in twenty-six NAIA games this past season. This match up should prove very challenging for the Vikes.

Hockey

Underwater Hockey was a hit at the B.C. Summer Games last year. Spectators came because they'd never heard of the sport before — and stayed because it was so exciting to watch.

And due to the publicity generated by the Summer Games, organizers expect record attendance at the Ninth Annual Victoria Potluck Underwater Hockey Tournament, which takes place this Saturday, Feb. 18, at the University of Victoria. Registration begins at 9:00 AM, with play beginning at 10:00 and continuing until 5:00 p.m.

What's on at the gay games

by David King reprinted in part from *Angles* Nov. issue.

Big plans are being made for the 1990 Gay Games III.

The "Two For The Show" planning conference focused on both sporting and cultural plans.

At a planning conference for the games in early October, the Final Sports roster was announced.

New events include: water polo, equestrian, golf, race walking, martial arts, squash, badminton, touch football, and croquet. Hockey and darts were added as exhibitions events.

Sports continuing from past games include basketball, volleyball, powerlifting, physique, soccer, swimming, softball, wrestling, triathalon, track and field, bowling, racquetball, diving, billiards, marathon, tennis and cycling.

One conference workshop laboured to define guidelines that would address the "Competition versus Participation" concerns of the 1,100 members and the board of directors of Celebration '90. It was generally agreed that while the concept of participation is supreme over the need for competition, the Games still require that a traditional elimination structure be in place to reinforce competition and personal achievement by the athletes.

Sports co-chair Mark Mees said complete rules and regulations would be available for distribution by next month. A final schedule is expected to be available by June, 1989, and early registration begins in July 1989.

Proposals came for many diverse cultural activities, including a "Chefs of The World" cooking event; a folk festival; a film festival; dance and theatre performances; art and photography exhibitions (including one "Spot the Gay Kid" exhibition of family portraits); a book fair; and an international bazaar for artisans to display and sell their wares.

The 450 member Gay and Lesbian Bands of America offered to entertain at the ceremonies and various events. A proposal to organize an international chorus, comprised of members from 42 gay and lesbian choruses, to perform with the Vancouver, Seattle and Berlin choruses is under consideration. □

Honour for Shields

by Felicia O'Gorman

It has been thirteen years since Ken Shields took the coaching position of the UVic men's basketball team, and during those years his hard work and perseverance has earned him many honors and successes. Perhaps the most well known is his building of a 'Dynasty', a name given to the building of a team that went on to win seven consecutive CIAU Championships from 1980 to '86.

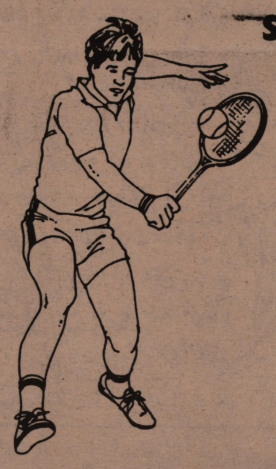
As well Shields has been responsible for producing eight Canada West Championship teams, receiving four CIAU Coach of the Year Awards, putting nine players on the National team (three on the Olympic squad), and building an impressive Career win-loss record of 366 - 127.

Shields has been a long time coach of the Junior National and National "B" team and has recently been appointed coach of the Men's National team. This newly appointed position means that his thirteenth year of coaching at UVic will be his final year. And so, on Saturday night, prior to the last Vikes league game, Ken Shields will be honored for his outstanding achievements.

Al Dudridge, who is in his eighth year of managing the Vikings team, will be honored, along side Shields, for his dedication and hard work.

Also in the plans during Friday night basketball action in McKinnon Gym will be presentations to the three graduating Viking players including Gerry Divoky, Wade Loukes and Dale Olson. None of the women's team members are graduating this year.

Weekend games begin at 6:30 for the women and 8:15 for the men with the presentations on both nights going at 8:00.

Victoria's Racquet Specialists
ANNUAL SALE
Con't until Sat. Feb. 18th
10 - 50% off all stock
SAVE:

* 20% on Squash, Badminton & Racquetball Racquets
* 10 - 30% on Tennis Racquets
* All Clothing 20 - 50% off
* Tennis & Court Shoes 20% off
* Racquet Stringing, Bags, Accessories 20% off
centre court racquets
1543 PANDORA AVENUE, STADACONA CENTRE 598-7175

Amsterdam University

POST-GRADUATE PROGRAMMES
INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS EXECUTIVE

These nine-month programmes (August 1989 - May 1990) include intensive courses in international law and economics, including law and economics related to the European Communities, and also French and English.

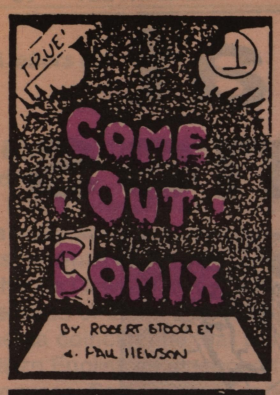
They are designed to prepare post-graduates in law, economics and political sciences for positions in corporations and national and international administrations. *Some programmes are specifically oriented towards EUROPE-1992.*

Lecturers of Amsterdam University, prominent officials and leading EC experts form the teaching staff.
Medium of instruction: English
Admission fee Dfl. 10.000, — (approx. $5.500), lodging not included. Some grants are available for waivers of the admission fee.

For further information: ASEDIR
Oudezijds Achterburgwal 237, 1012 DL Amsterdam,
The Netherlands.

UVIC BASKETBALL
VS
LETHBRIDGE
Fri. & Sat. Feb. 17th & 18th
Women: 6:30 p.m. Men: 8:15 p.m.
UVic McKinnon Gym
Child $3 Student $4 Adult $5
UVic Students FREE — with valid I.D.
FRIDAY: "COKE NIGHT"
FREE GIVEAWAYS
SATURDAY: WENDYS NIGHT
First 200 fans receive 2 for 1
hamburger coupons

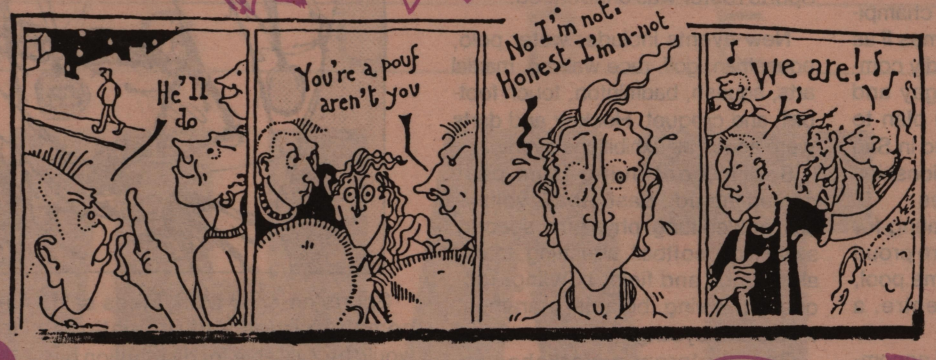
THURSDAY FUNNIES



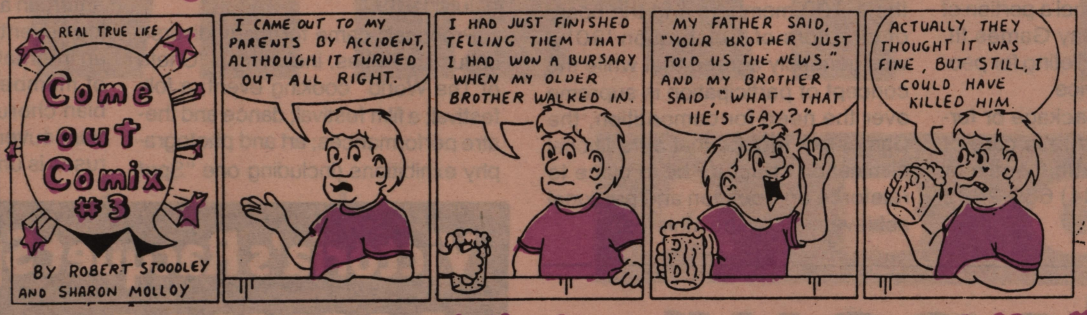
BING BONG
Good morning madam Can I interest you in a product that shines the greasiest pan, unblocks sinks, bakes cakes and irons shirts. It can also sew, nurse the sick, double glaze patio doors,
...rollerskate, write clever plays, compose the 1812 overture, paint the Sistine chapel ceiling, breed cats, disco itself stupid...
ENOUGH! I'll take two.
What is it?
The gay man
HOMOSEXUAL ROMPHOBIA TO

WARNING

These cartoons depict graphic scenes of REALITY which may offend some HOMOPHOBIC people — read at your own risk...



FAMOUS GUILT SYNDROMES
THIS IS TERRIBLE! THEY'RE ASSAULTING OUR SENSIBILITIES!
SOMEBODY HAD BETTER REPORT THIS TO GOD!
ACTUALLY, I'D RATHER NOT GET INVOLVED...
CLENCH YOUR EYEBALLS, HERE THEY COME!


REAL TRUE LIFE
Come -out Comix #3
BY ROBERT STOODLEY AND SHARON MOLLOY
I CAME OUT TO MY PARENTS BY ACCIDENT, ALTHOUGH IT TURNED OUT ALL RIGHT.
I HAD JUST FINISHED TELLING THEM THAT I HAD WON A BURSARY WHEN MY OLDER BROTHER WALKED IN.
MY FATHER SAID, "YOUR BROTHER JUST TOLD US THE NEWS." AND MY BROTHER SAID, "WHAT - THAT HE'S GAY?"
ACTUALLY, THEY THOUGHT IT WAS FINE, BUT STILL, I COULD HAVE KILLED HIM.

Portrait of Panic#

Hello, there, dear! What a lovely day! Would you like a magazine to Read? you look like a nice person... i'd really like to take the time to chat with you!
uh, thanks, but i gotta go meet my girlfriend... uh...
Girlfriend!! AGH! QUEER!! ACH! tool of Satan! queer! icky poo!!

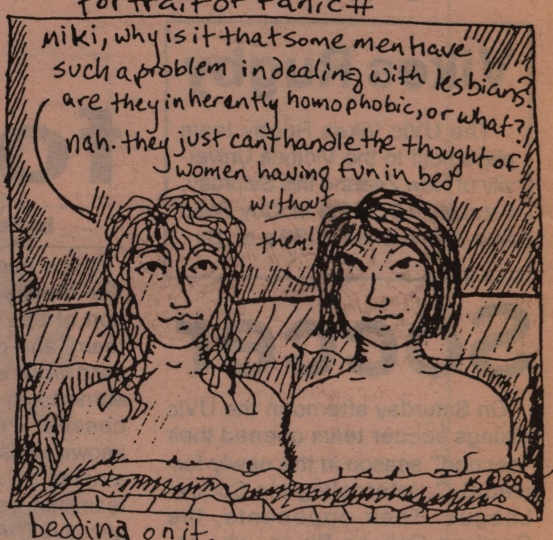
that nice lady on the street corner...

Portrait of Panic#

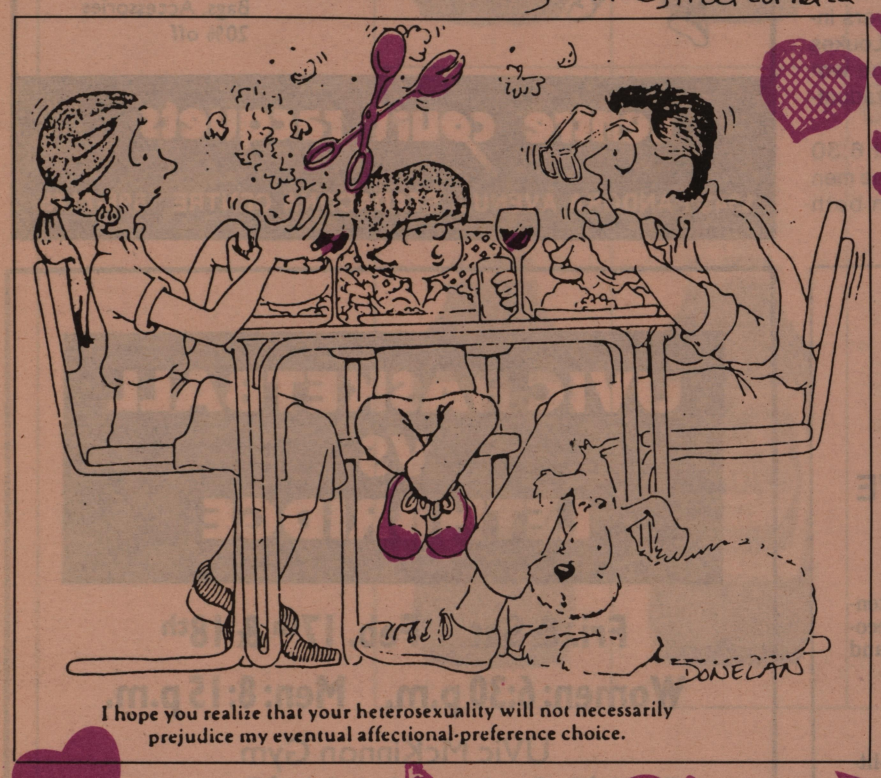
i haven't been here since Alice and i were here last... goddess, what memories! ;sigh;... there's the rock we sat on... or was it that one? or maybe the one over there? or...?

x - marks the spot.

Portrait of Panic#

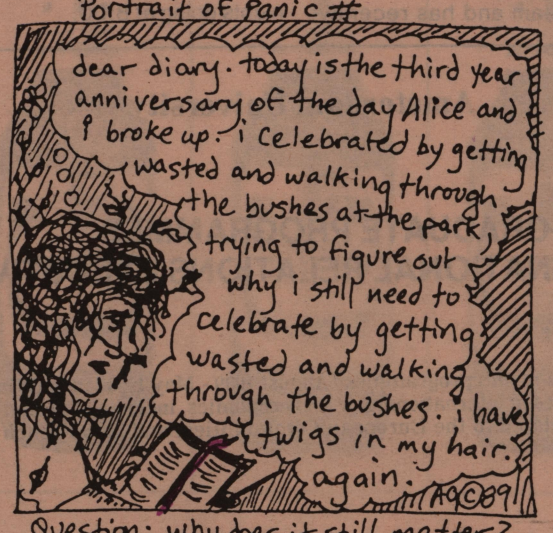

niki, why is it that some men have such a problem in dealing with lesbians? are they inherently homophobic, or what?
nah. they just can't handle the thought of women having fun in bed without them!

bedding on it.



I hope you realize that your heterosexuality will not necessarily prejudice my eventual affectional-preference choice.

Portrait of Panic#


dear diary. today is the third year anniversary of the day Alice and I broke up. i celebrated by getting wasted and walking through the bushes at the park, trying to figure out why i still need to celebrate by getting wasted and walking through the bushes. i have twigs in my hair. again.

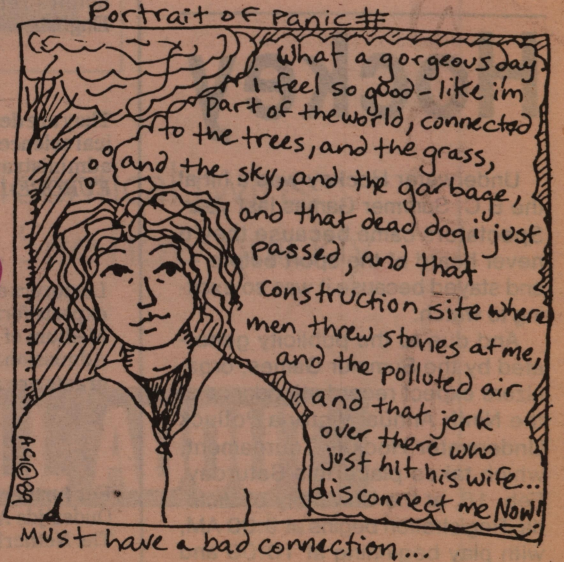
Question: why does it still matter?

Portrait of Panic#

gloria, are you sure...? um... i've never seen you with a man... mendon't call you here at work... um... what i mean is, um... uh... ARE YOU GAY?
GAY?! im not even HAPPY! in fact, im depressed! yah! that's it! im depressed!

Homophobia within ourselves.

Portrait of Panic#


what a gorgeous day! i feel so good - like im part of the world, connected to the trees, and the grass, and the sky, and the garbage, and that dead dog i just passed, and that construction site where men threw stones at me, and the polluted air and that jerk over there who just hit his wife... disconnect me Now!

Must have a bad connection...

I never told a soul for a long time.
I was worried about how my friends would react
So finally I worked up enough nerve to tell my best friend I said listen,
I have something to tell you. I'm gay.
She said, "How terrific! Now we can be even closer."
I was so pleased I went out and told everybody! It was great!